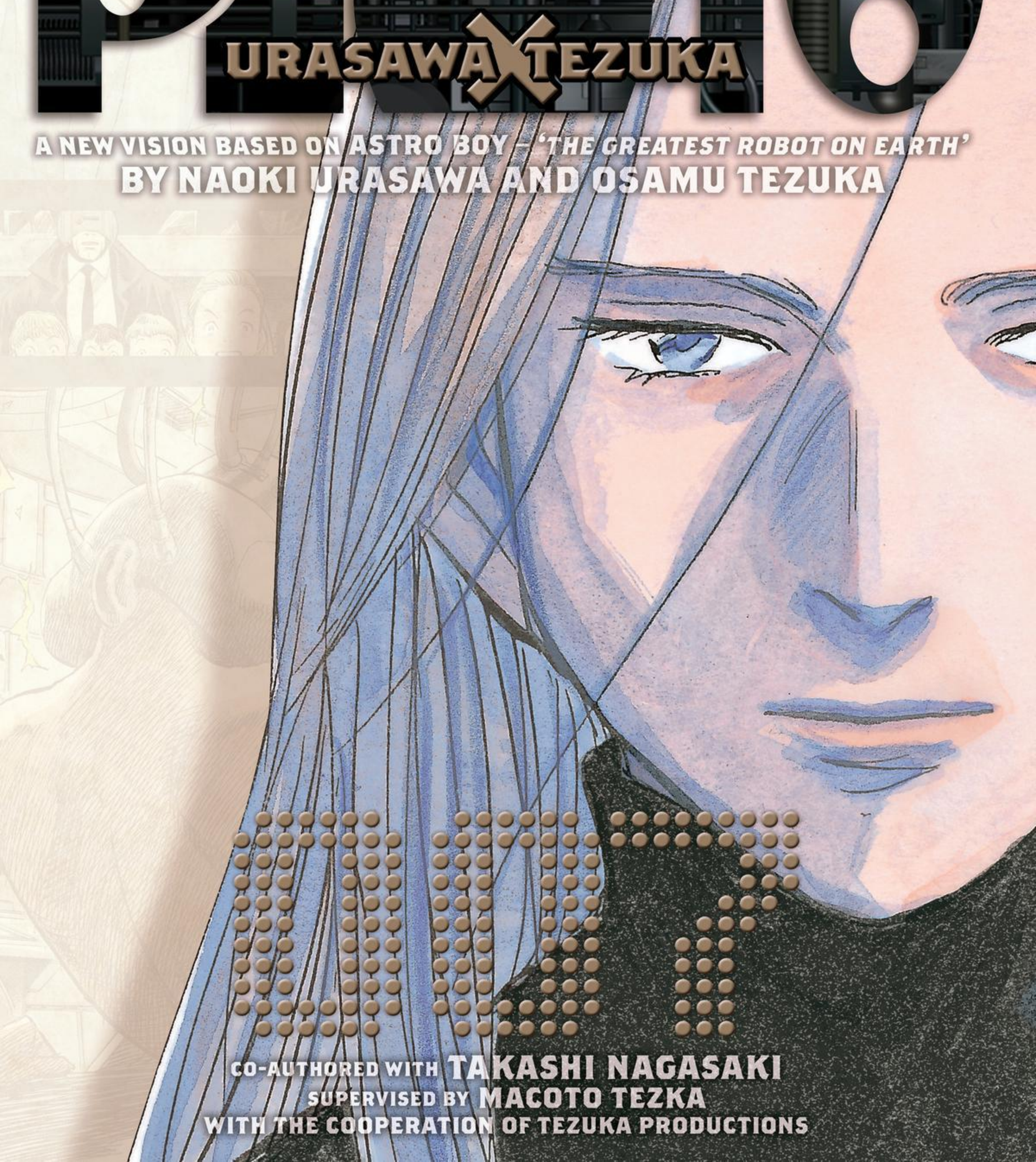
PLUTO

URASAWA × TEZUKA

A NEW VISION BASED ON ASTRO BOY – 'THE GREATEST ROBOT ON EARTH'

BY NAOKI URASAWA AND OSAMU TEZUKA



CO-AUTHORED WITH TAKASHI NAGASAKI

SUPERVISED BY MACOTO TEZKA

WITH THE COOPERATION OF TEZUKA PRODUCTIONS

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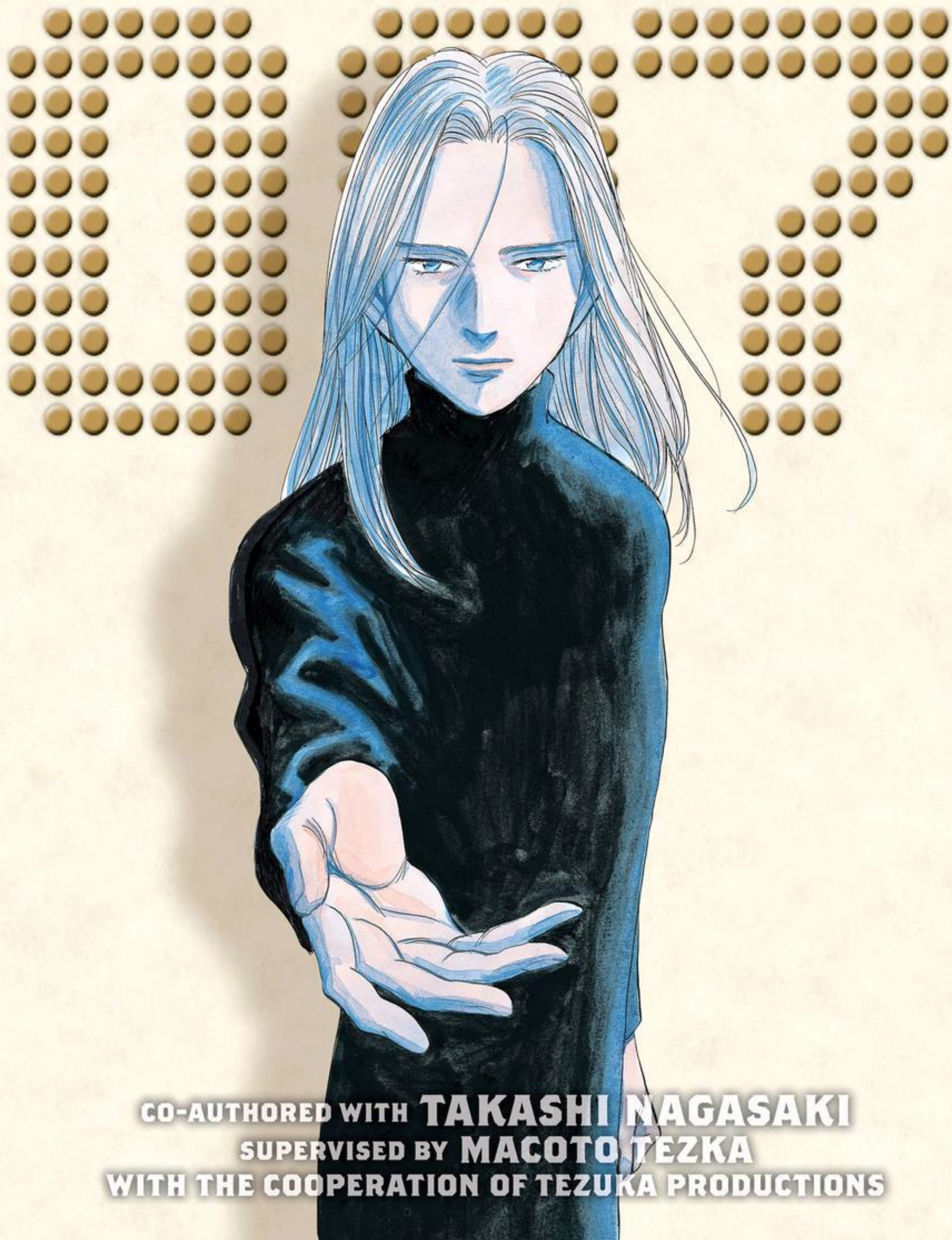

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NO, ME!

ME?

HOW 'BOUT ME?

MAYBE IT'S ME.

IT'S ME, FOR SURE!

ME...!

ME, ME, ME!

HEY! IT'S ME.

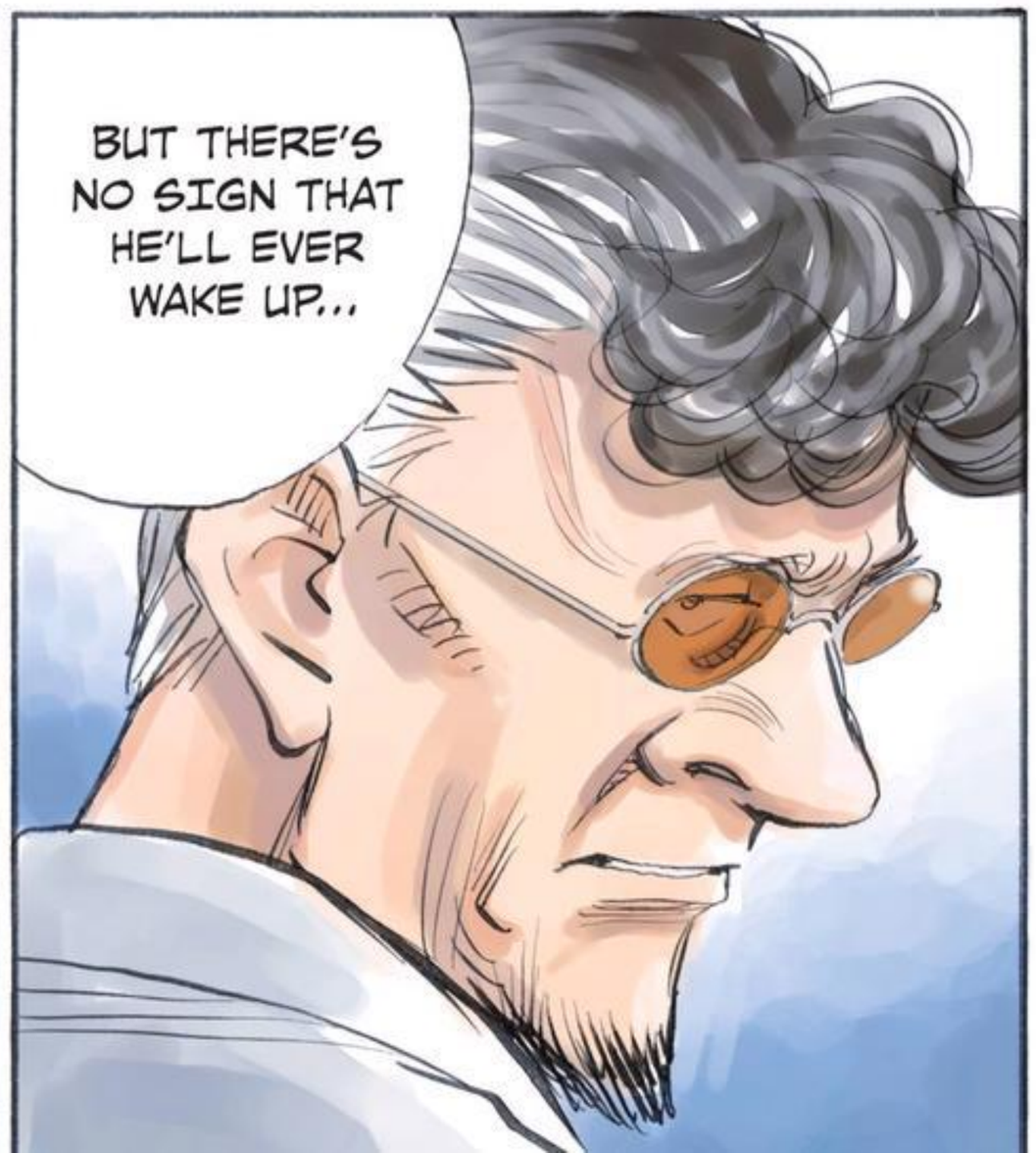
IT'S ME.

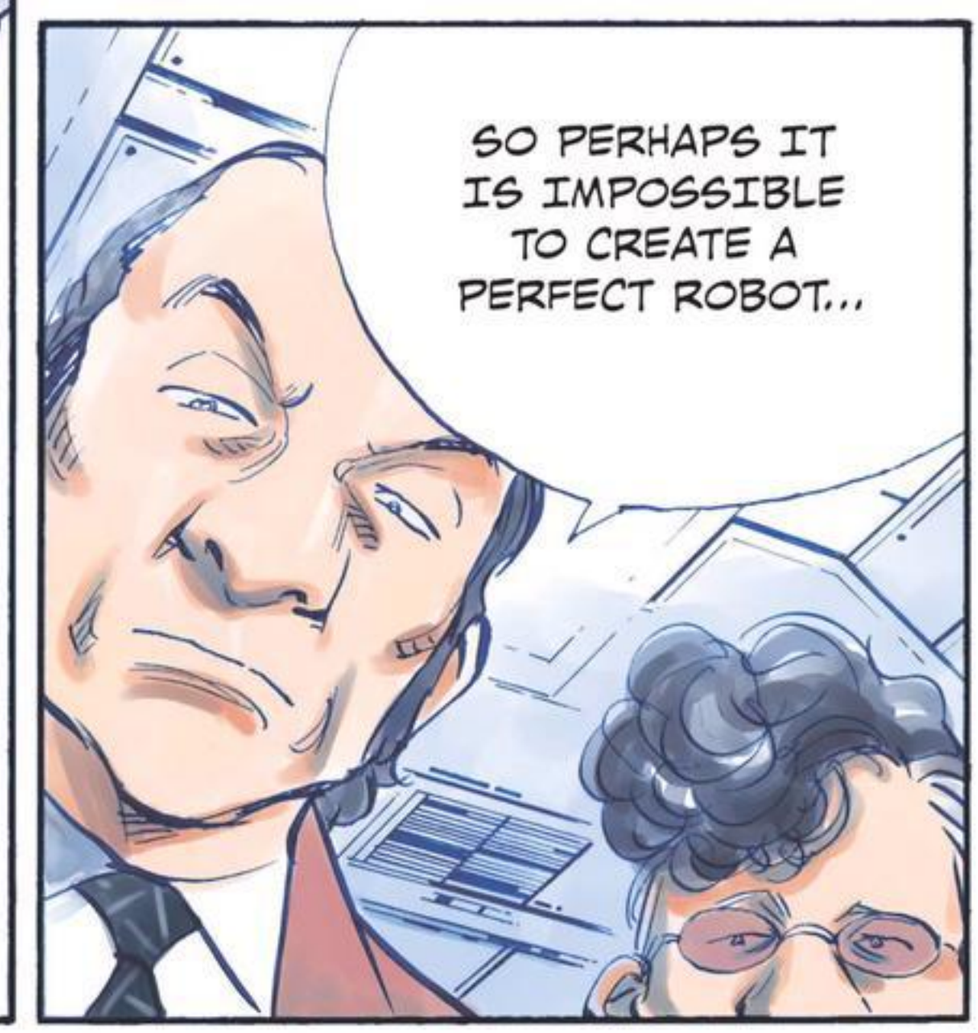
ME.

Act 48

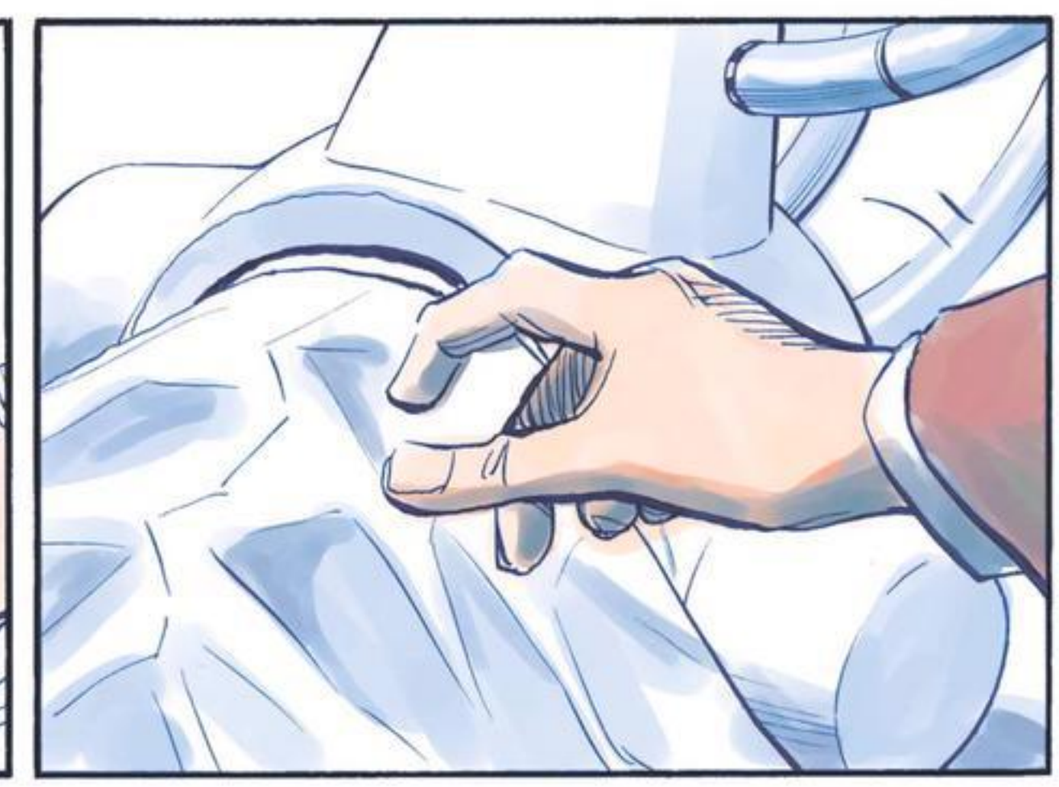
SIX BILLION PERSONALITIES

VRRM
VRRM
VRRM

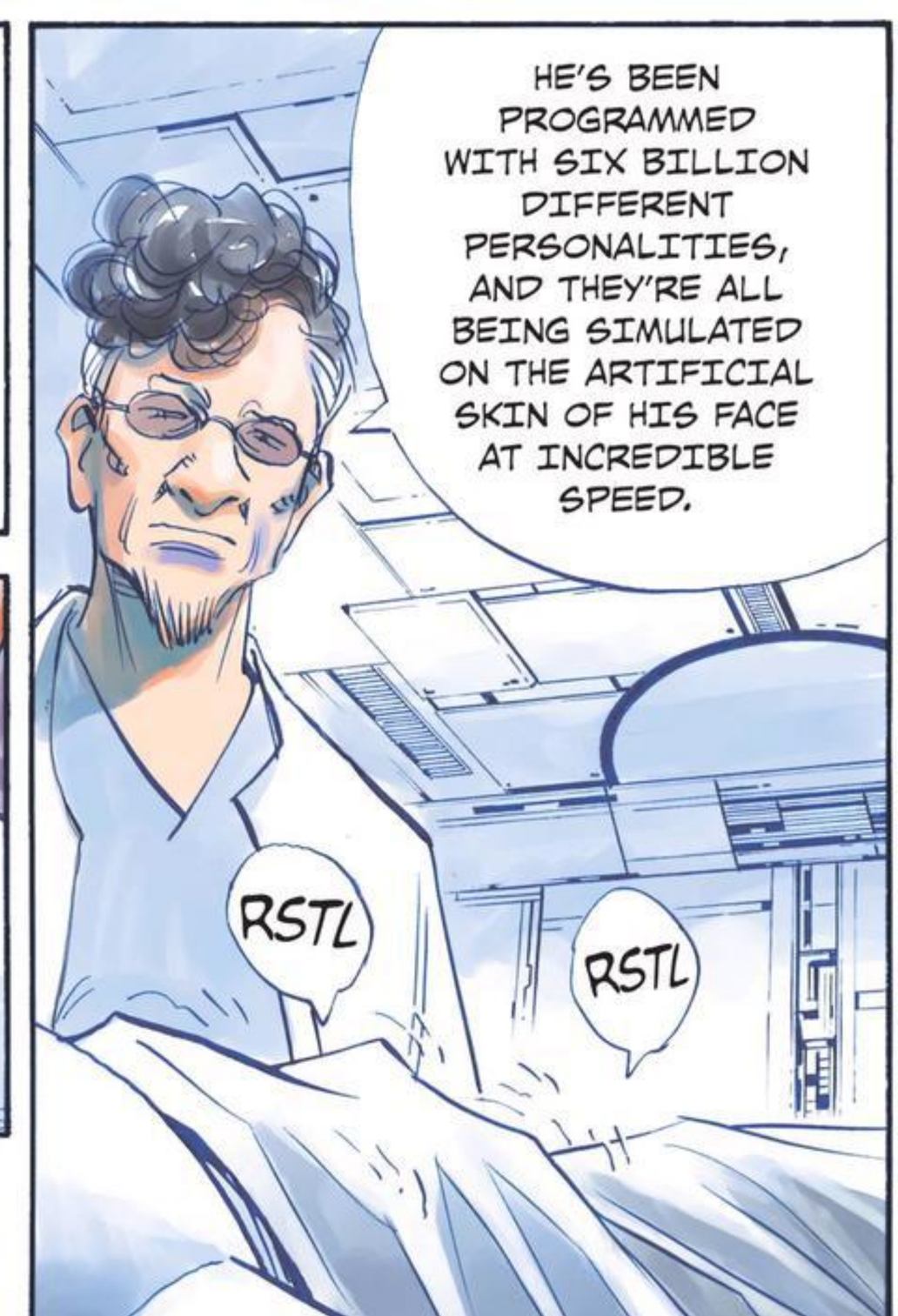



SO PERHAPS IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO CREATE A PERFECT ROBOT...

IT'S PROBABLY BEST YOU NOT LOOK AT HIS FACE...



...
IT'S A FACE BEYOND BELIEF...


HE'S BEEN PROGRAMMED WITH SIX BILLION DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES, AND THEY'RE ALL BEING SIMULATED ON THE ARTIFICIAL SKIN OF HIS FACE AT INCREDIBLE SPEED.
RSTL
RSTL

RSTL
RSTL

I'VE PROGRAMMED HIM WITH AS MANY PERSONALITIES AS THERE ARE PEOPLE ON EARTH.

BUT THE SELECTION PROCESS TAKES A HUGE AMOUNT OF TIME.

SO THEN, PROFESSOR TENMA...

HOW DO WE WAKE HIM UP?

IT WAS YOU, PROFESSOR ABULLAH, WHO SAID YOU WANTED AN AI GREATER THAN THE "ULTIMATE COMPUTER" IN THE UNITED STATES OF THRACIA.

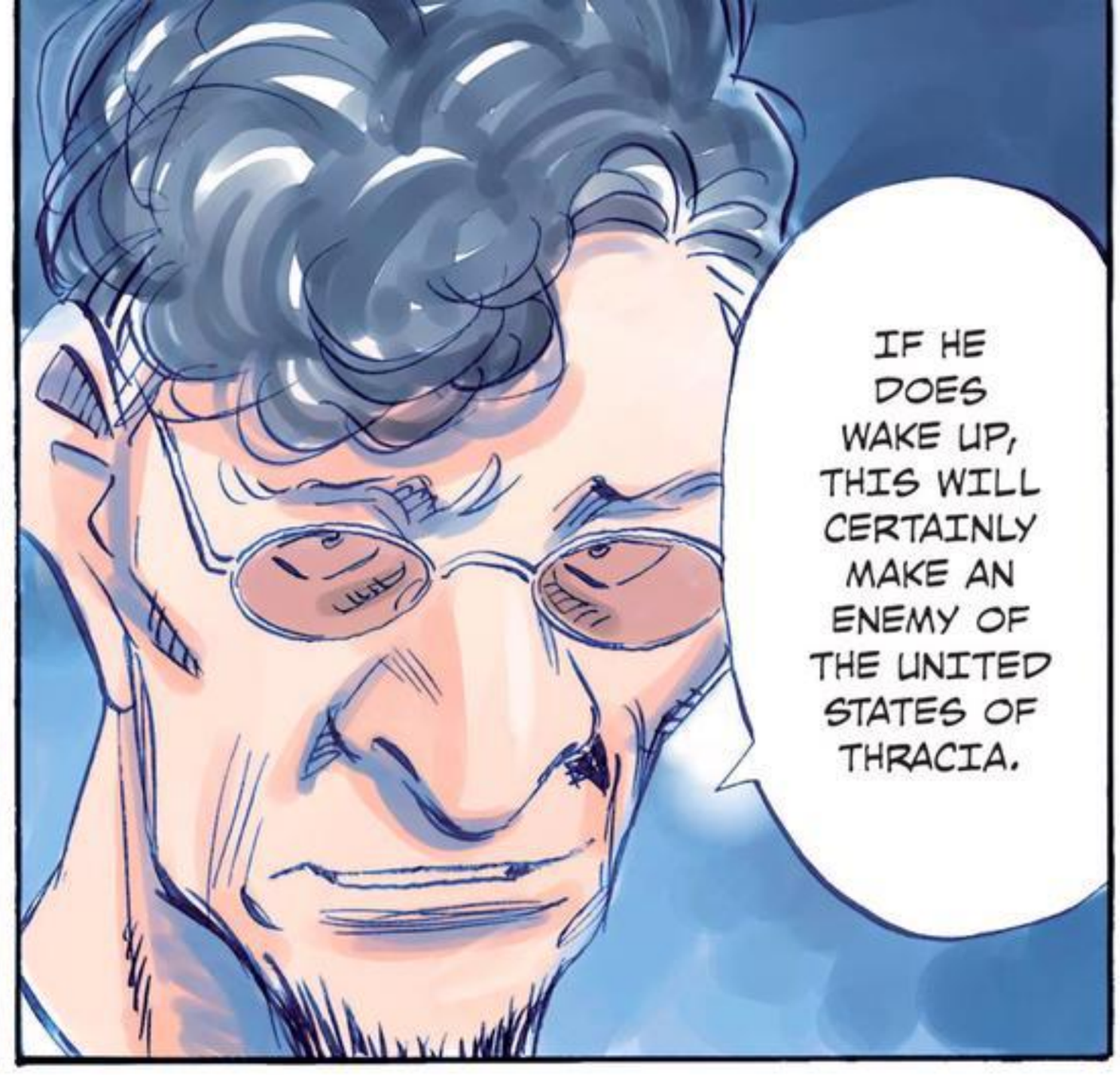
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

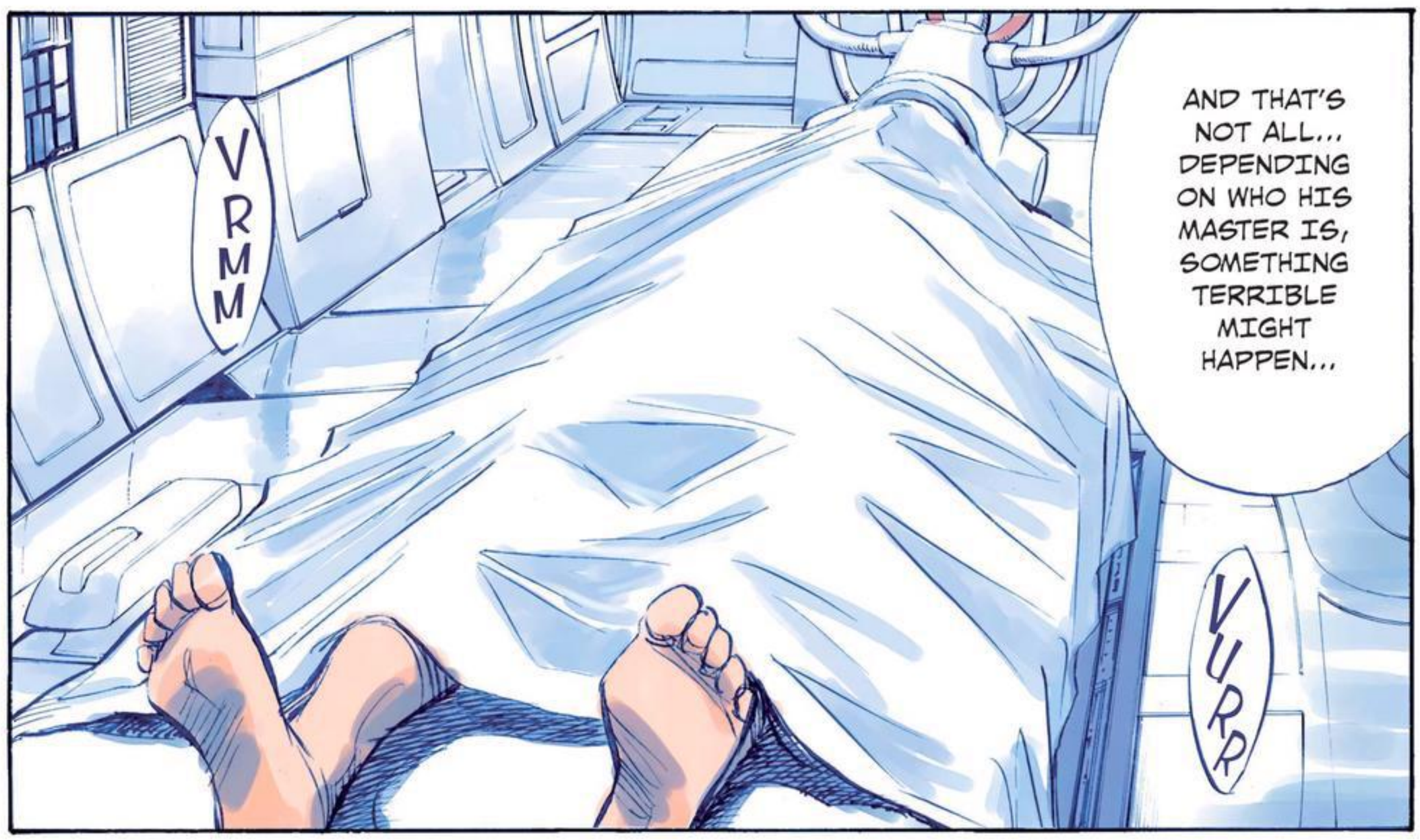
ARE YOU PREPARED FOR IT?

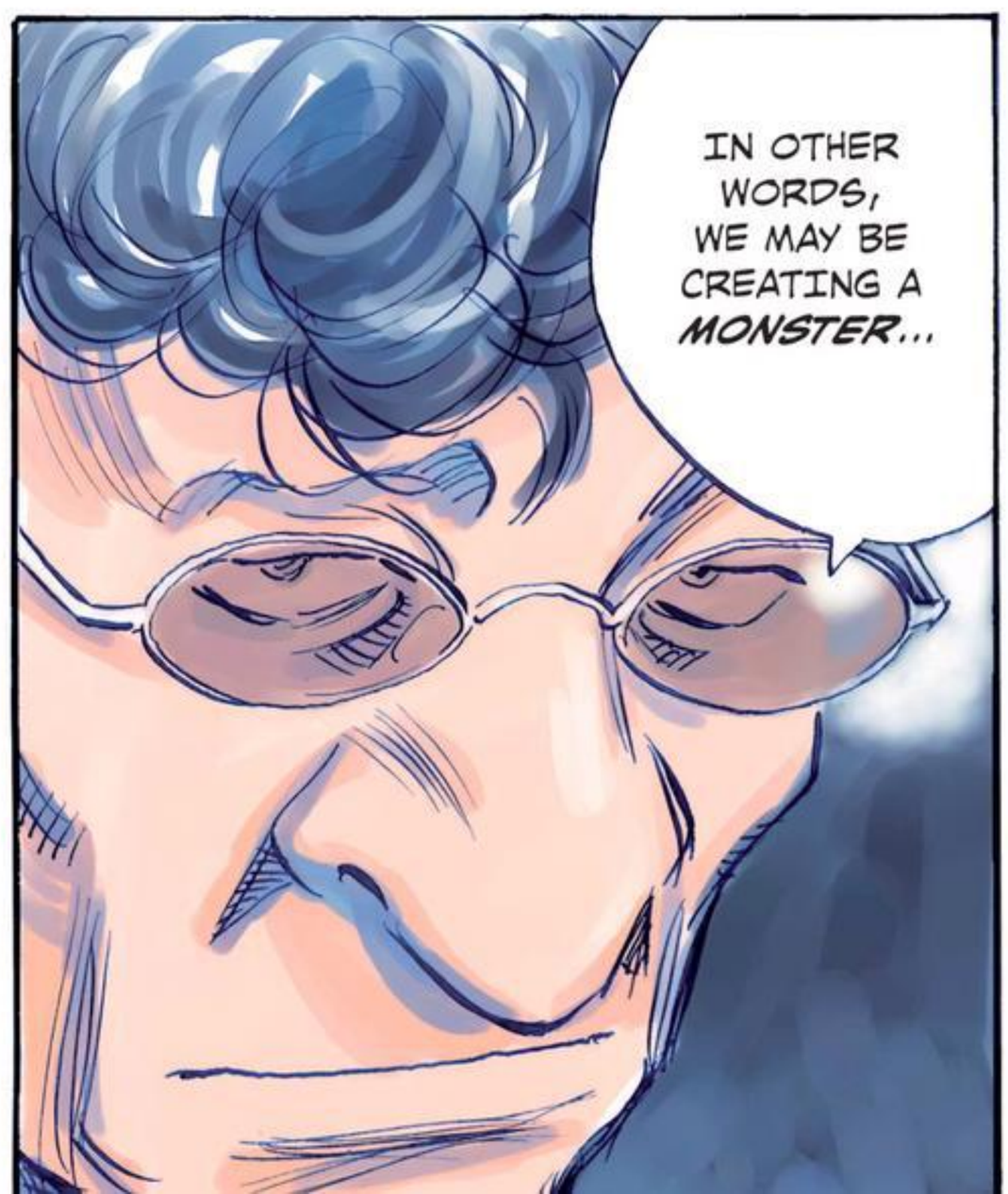
WELL, THERE *IS* A WAY TO WAKE HIM...

BUT IT'S USELESS IF IT DOESN'T WAKE UP!

...


IF HE DOES WAKE UP, THIS WILL CERTAINLY MAKE AN ENEMY OF THE UNITED STATES OF THRACIA.


VRMM
AND THAT'S NOT ALL... DEPENDING ON WHO HIS MASTER IS, SOMETHING TERRIBLE MIGHT HAPPEN...
VURR


IN OTHER WORDS, WE MAY BE CREATING A *MONSTER*...

IT'S VERY LIKELY THAT HE'LL START ACTING ON HIS OWN...
THE PROBLEM ISN'T THE *ORDERS* HE'S GIVEN ...

...

NOTHING WILL HAPPEN UNTIL HE WAKES UP! SO HOW DO WE DO IT?!

BUT THAT'S JUST SPECULATION, PROFESSOR!

... BIAS?

EMO-TIONAL ...

SADNESS ...

ANGER ...

HATRED ...

THAT'S RIGHT.

WE INTRODUCE AN EMOTIONAL BIAS.

THROWING OFF THE BALANCE IS THE SIMPLEST WAY TO RESOLVE THE CHAOS OF SIX BILLION DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES.

...

VWMM

VRRM

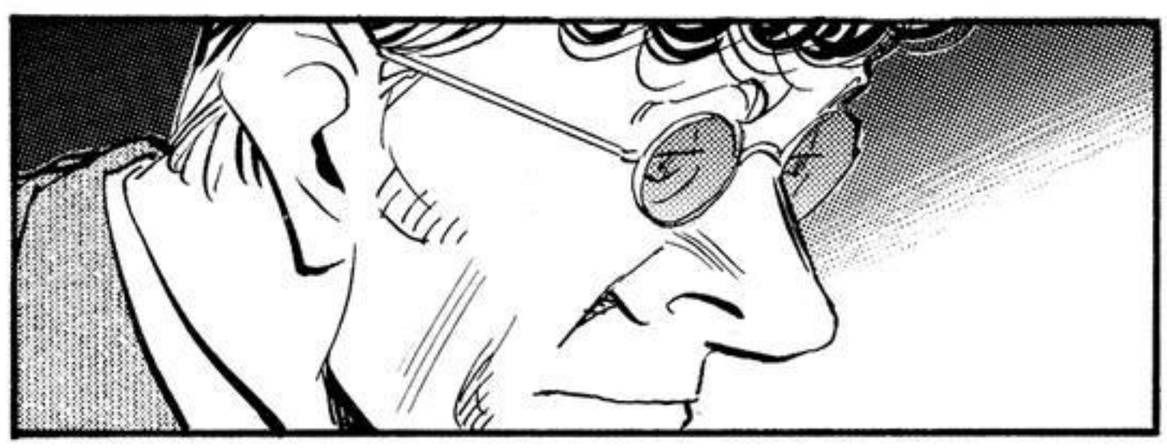
VRR
THEY SAY THE UN FORCES BOMBERS ARE GETTING CLOSER...
YES...
VRR

I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR ME TO GO.

I WISH I COULD KEEP YOU HERE, PROFESSOR ...
BUT I'M SURE YOUR FAMILY'S CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR SAFETY.

VURR
VURR

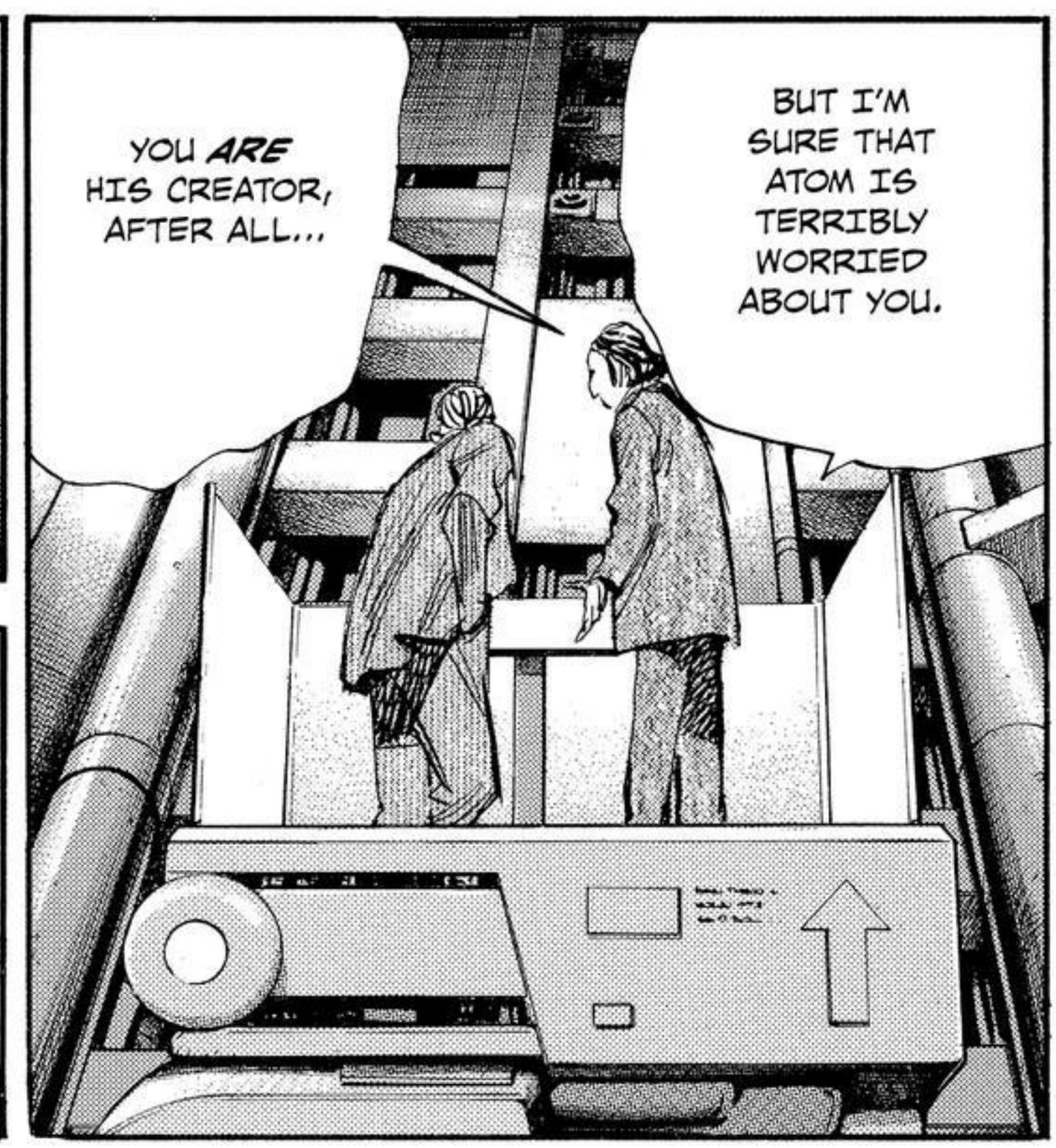
PLEASE FORGIVE ME... I FORGOT THAT YOUR FAMILY...

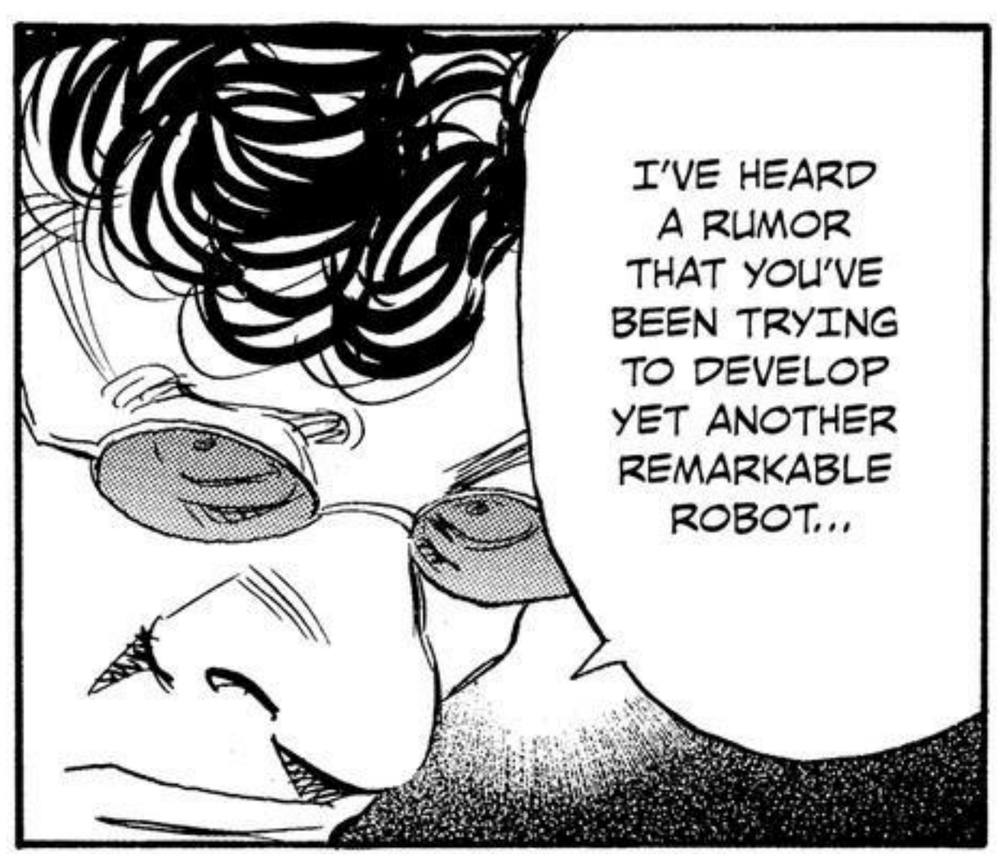


OH...

I'VE HEARD THAT YOU ALSO ADOPTED ROBOTS AS CHILDREN, PROFESSOR ABULLAH...

YES, THAT'S RIGHT. IN ADDITION TO MY WIFE AND CHILD, I HAVE SAHAD AND MURAT....


YOU *ARE* HIS CREATOR, AFTER ALL...
BUT I'M SURE THAT ATOM IS TERRIBLY WORRIED ABOUT YOU.


I'VE HEARD A RUMOR THAT YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO DEVELOP YET ANOTHER REMARKABLE ROBOT...

!!
AND WHAT ABOUT BORA?

SO YOU PLAN TO HAVE *HIM* SOLVE THEM?

THERE ARE STILL LOTS OF PROBLEMS, AND I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO SOLVE THEM ALL...

THAT'S TRUE, BUT IT'S STILL IN THE DESIGN PHASE...

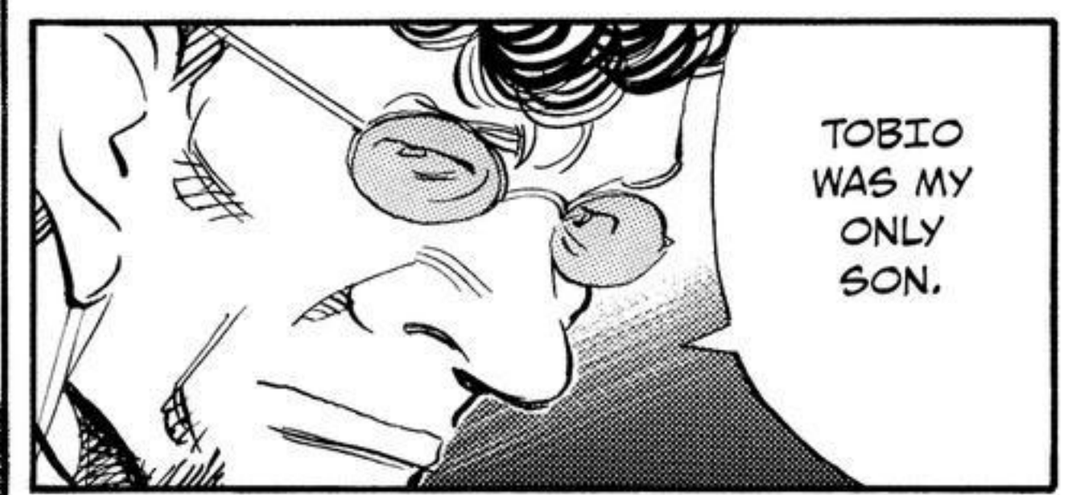
THIS SLEEPING ROBOT?

I HAVE NO FAMILY...

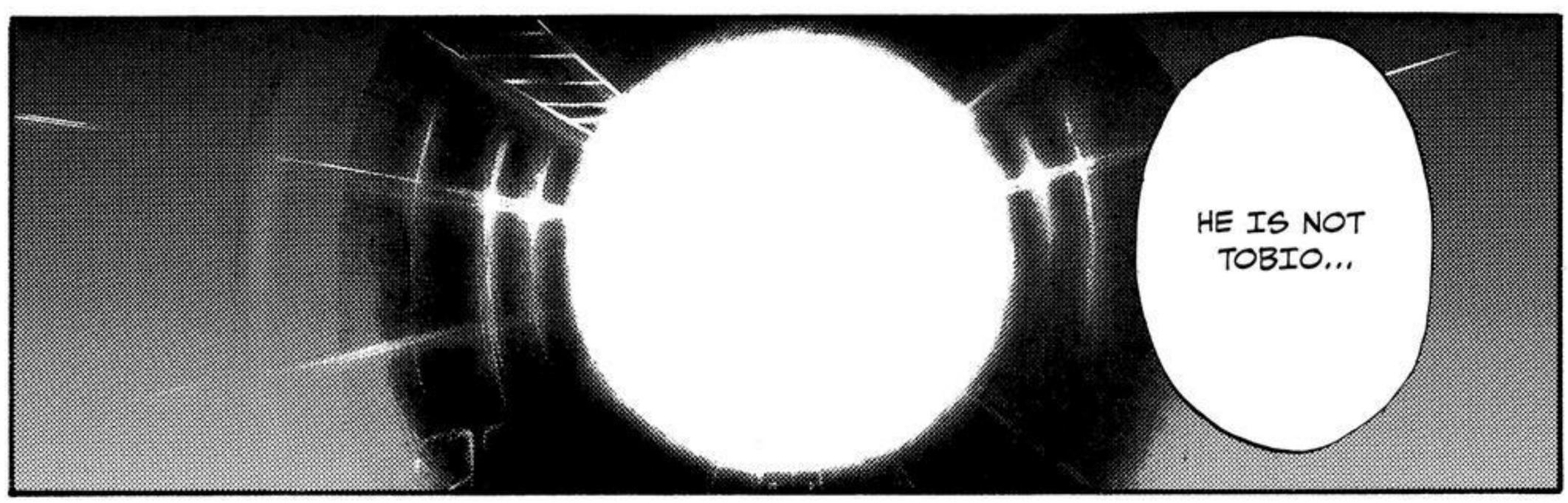
VRRR

VRRM

BUT ATOM IS IMPERFECT ...

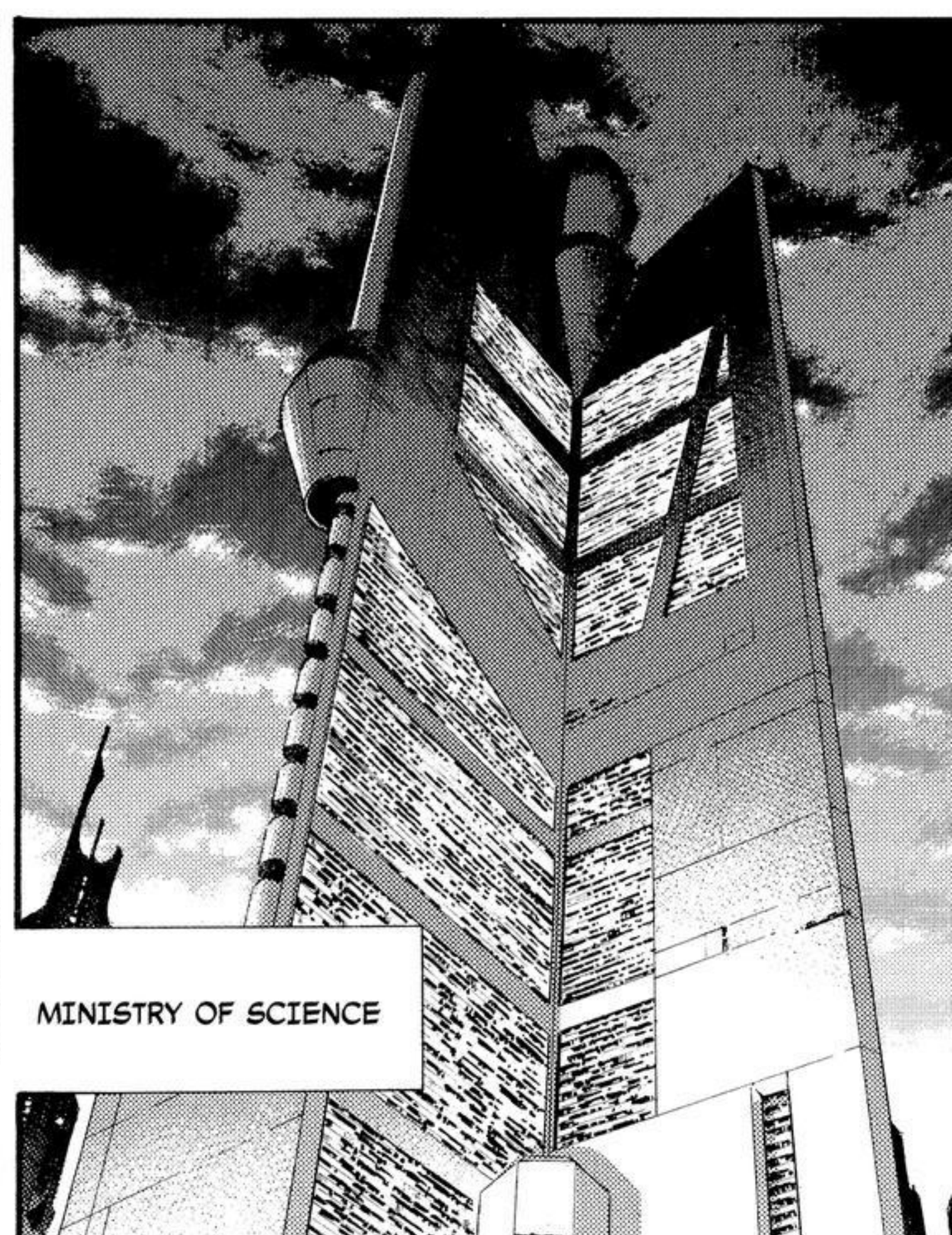

TOBIO WAS MY ONLY SON.

BUT YOU HAVE *ATOM*...


HE IS NOT TOBIO...

HE IS IMPERFECT ...

HE IS NOT... TOBIO.


MINISTRY OF SCIENCE

"SHE"?

SHE WENT BACK TO HER COUNTRY.

PROFESSOR TENMA.

SHE'S VERY CONCERNED ABOUT ATOM.

I WAS HOPING SHE COULD MEET YOU...

GESICHT'S WIFE, HELENA.

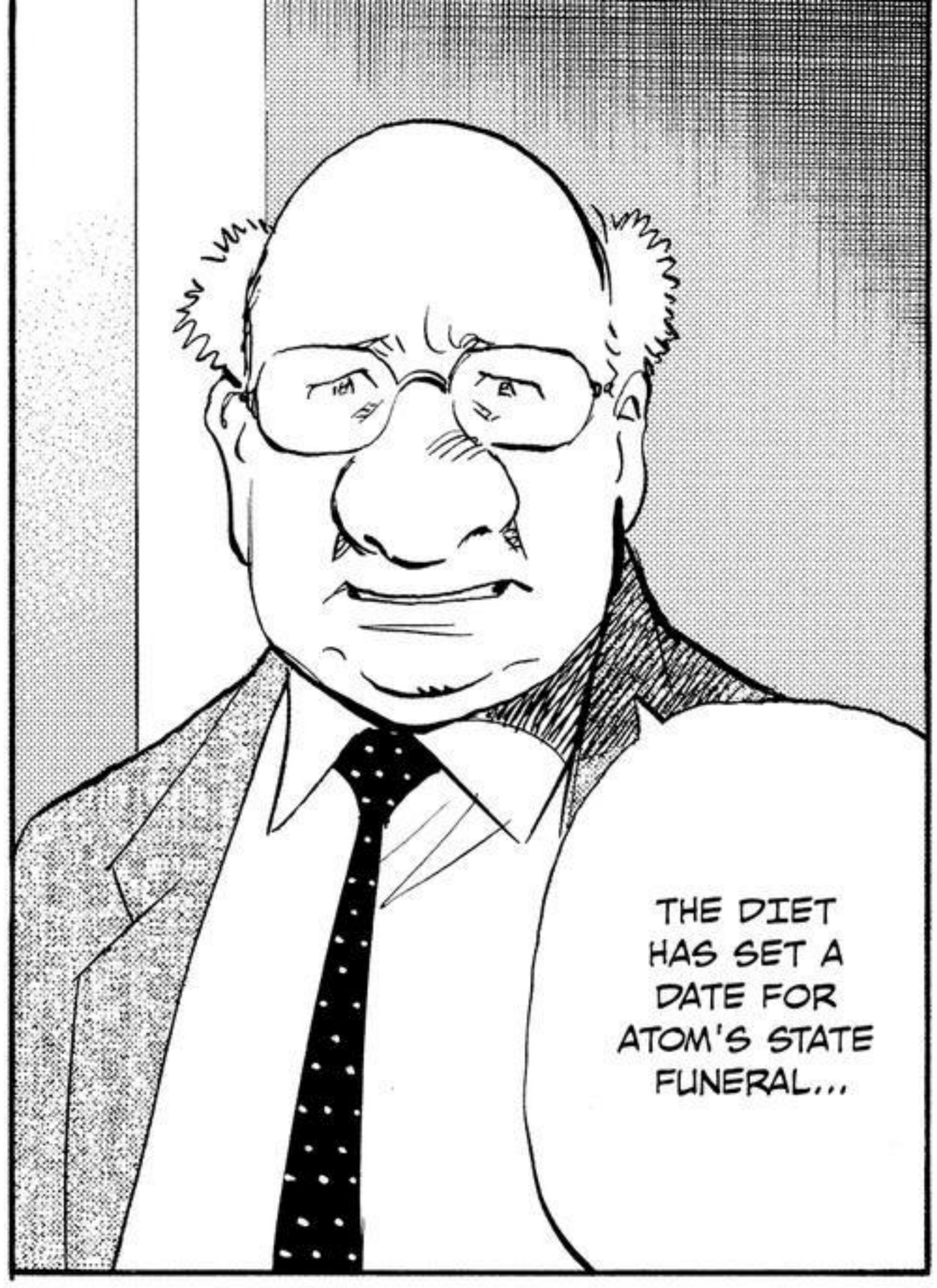
HMPH...

HER COMPAS-SION...

BUT IN THIS CASE, I THINK HELENA'S SENSE OF KINDNESS MIGHT BE WORTH STUDYING.

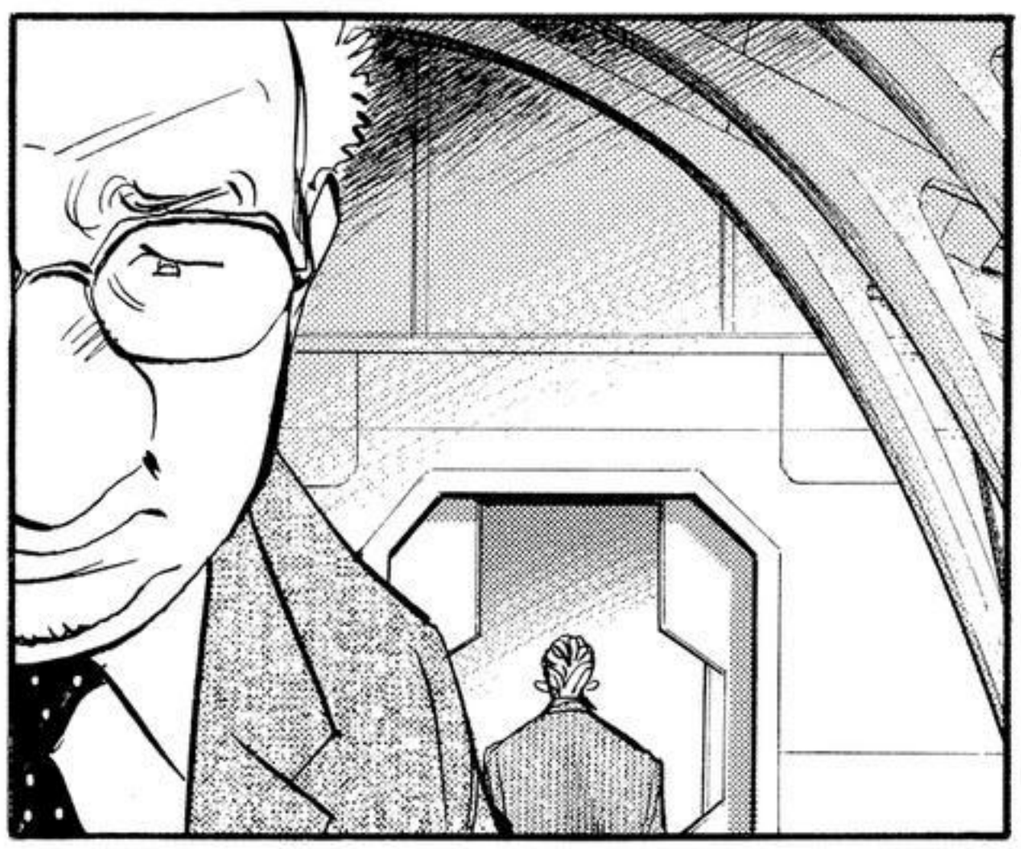
I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT WE SCIENTISTS TEND TO FOCUS ON TECHNOLOGICAL RESULTS...

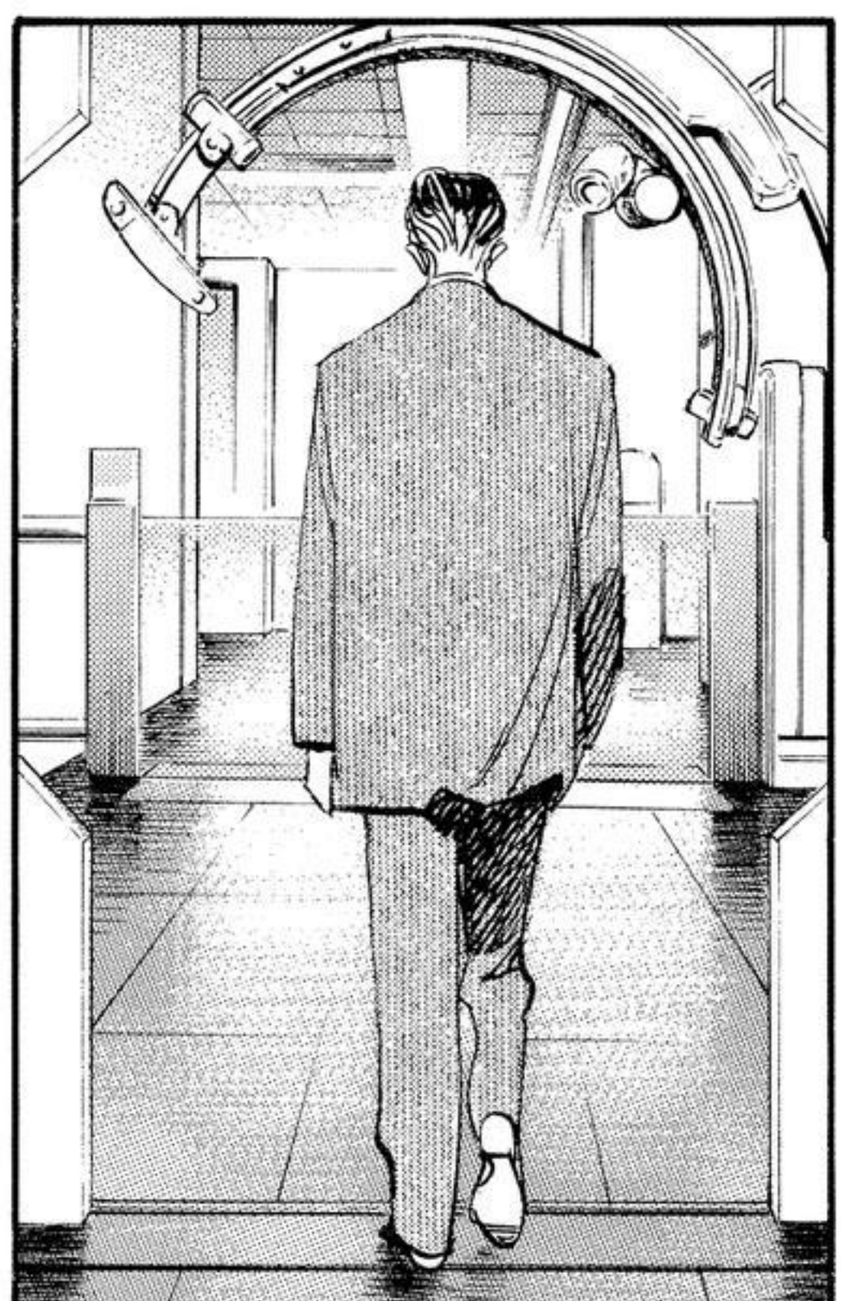
...NEARLY EQUALS THAT OF ATOM...

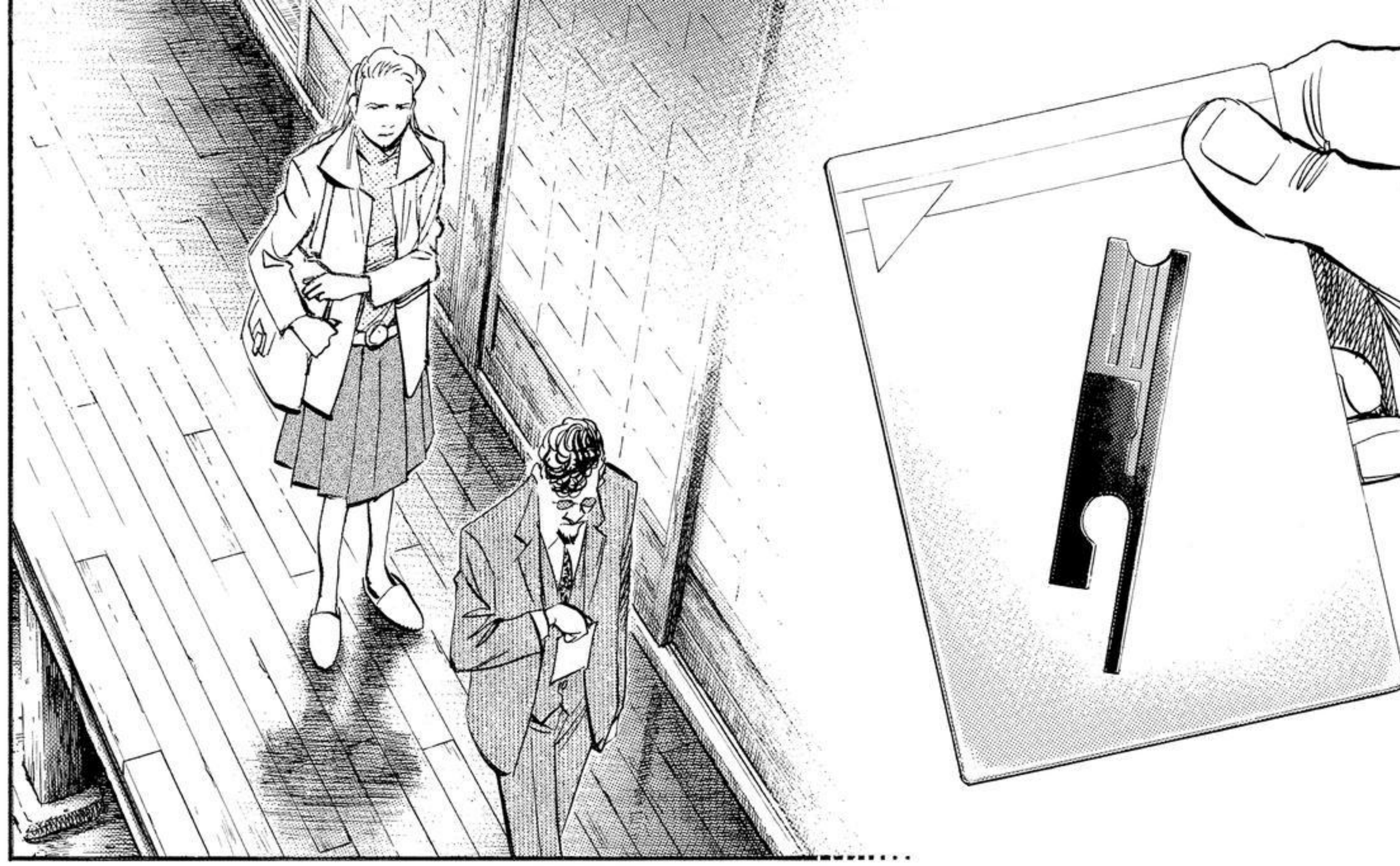

THE DIET HAS SET A DATE FOR ATOM'S STATE FUNERAL...

KLAK

BY THE WAY, PROFES-SOR TENMA...



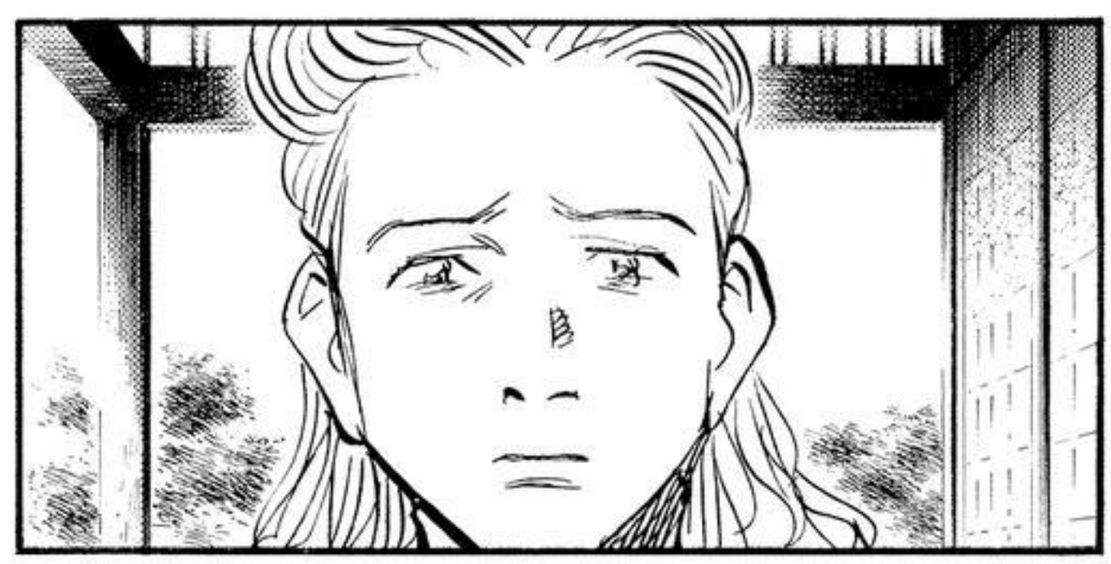




YES...

IF I GIVE THIS TO YOU, THEN GESICHT WON'T HAVE DIED IN VAIN?
IS IT REALLY TRUE?

WHAT I HAVE IN MY HAND REPRESENTS YOUR HUSBAND'S *SPIRIT*.



THIS IS WHAT WE HUMANS REFER TO AS THE SOUL...

BOOM

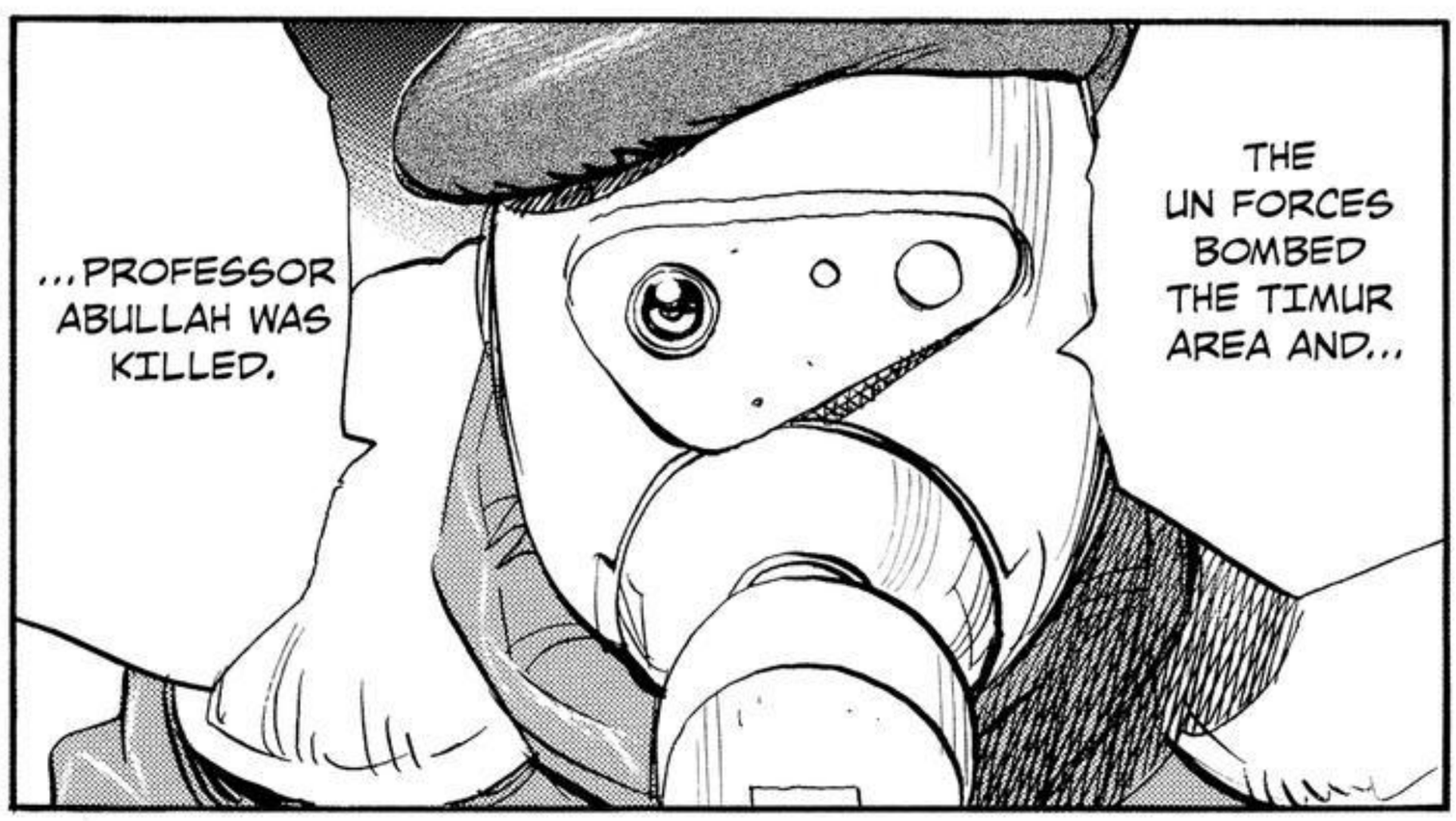
THIS AREA IS NO LONGER SAFE!!
PROFESSOR! WE MUST GO TO THE AIRPORT QUICKLY!

I KNOW, I KNOW...

RMMM
NNGH!!

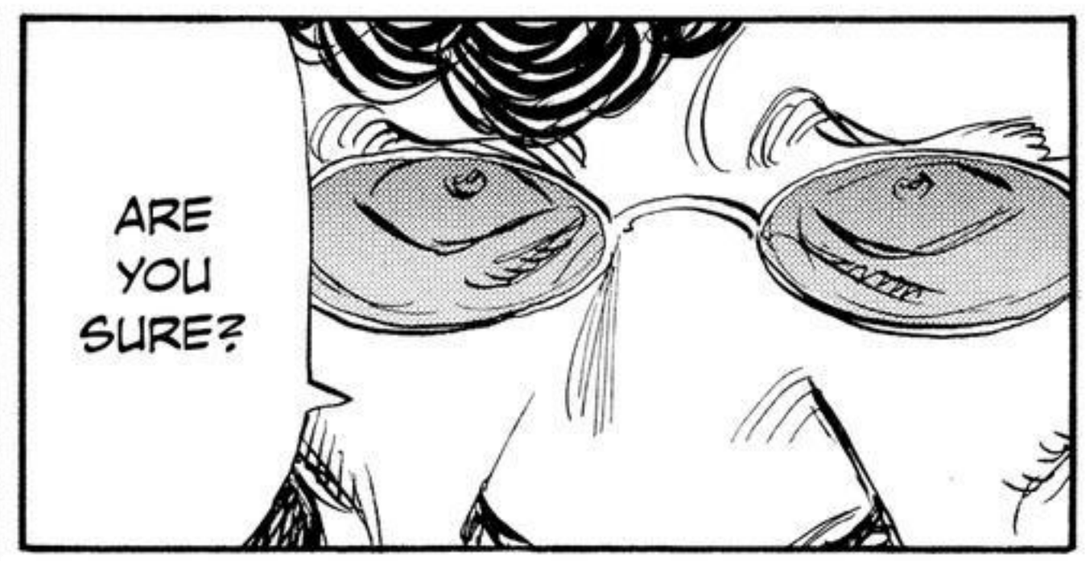
RMMMM
I HAVE SOME BAD NEWS.

?!
PROFES-SOR TENMA!!

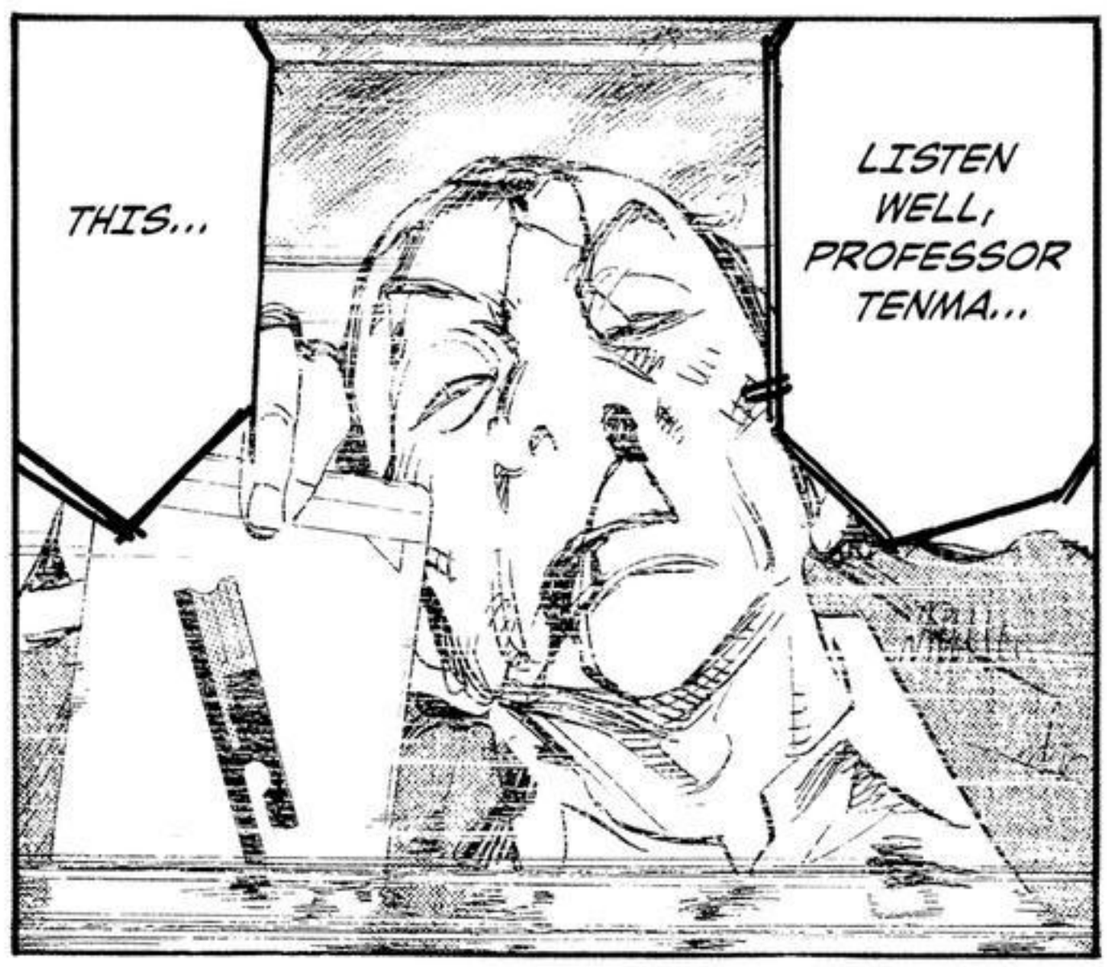

...PROFESSOR ABULLAH WAS KILLED.
THE UN FORCES BOMBED THE TIMUR AREA AND...

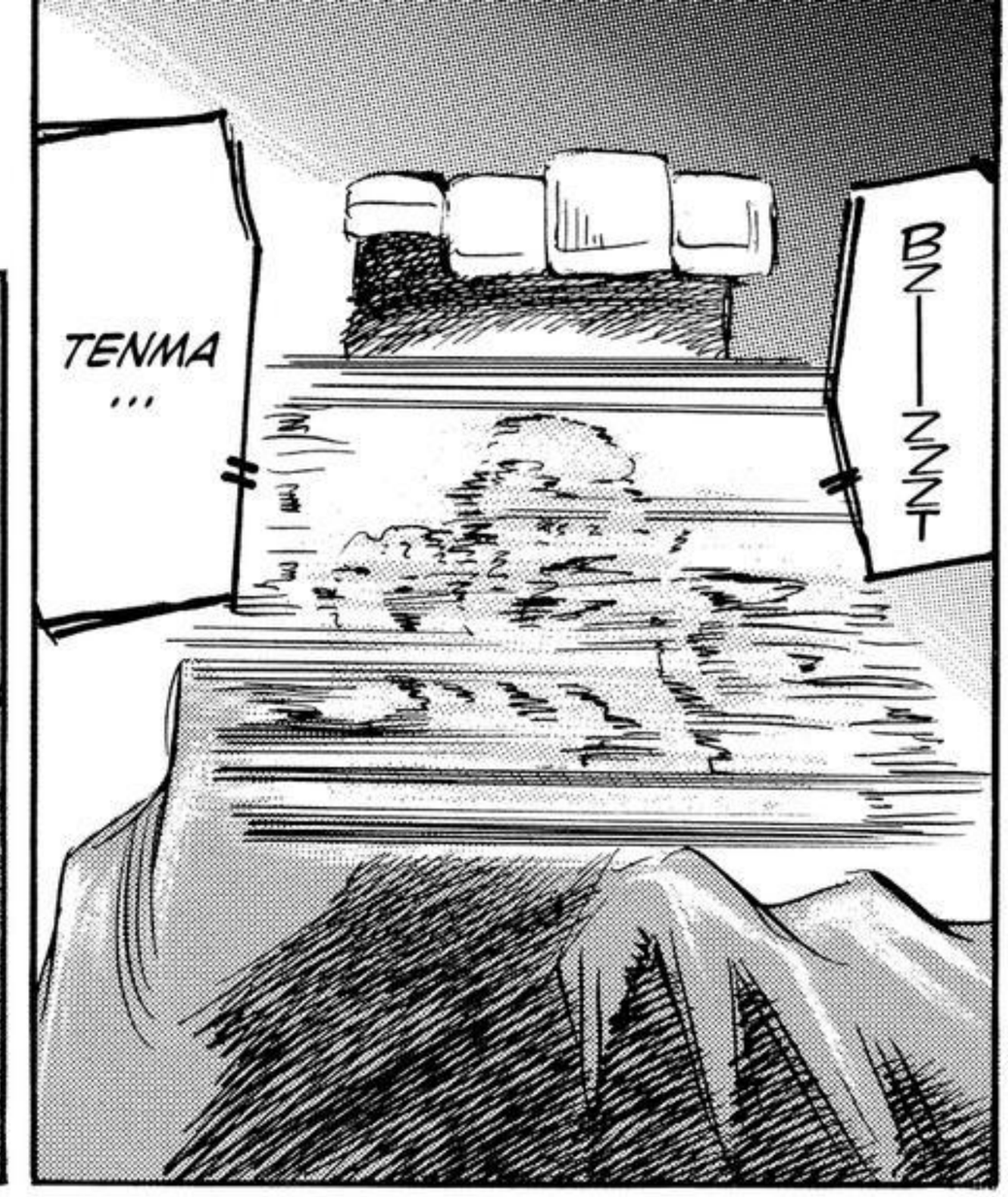
RMMM

?!
JUST BEFORE HE DIED, HE ASKED ME TO RELAY A MESSAGE TO YOU, SIR.


ARE YOU SURE?

...HE STOPPED BREATHING SOON AFTER, SIR.
WE WERE ABLE TO PULL THE PROFESSOR FROM THE RUBBLE ALIVE, BUT...

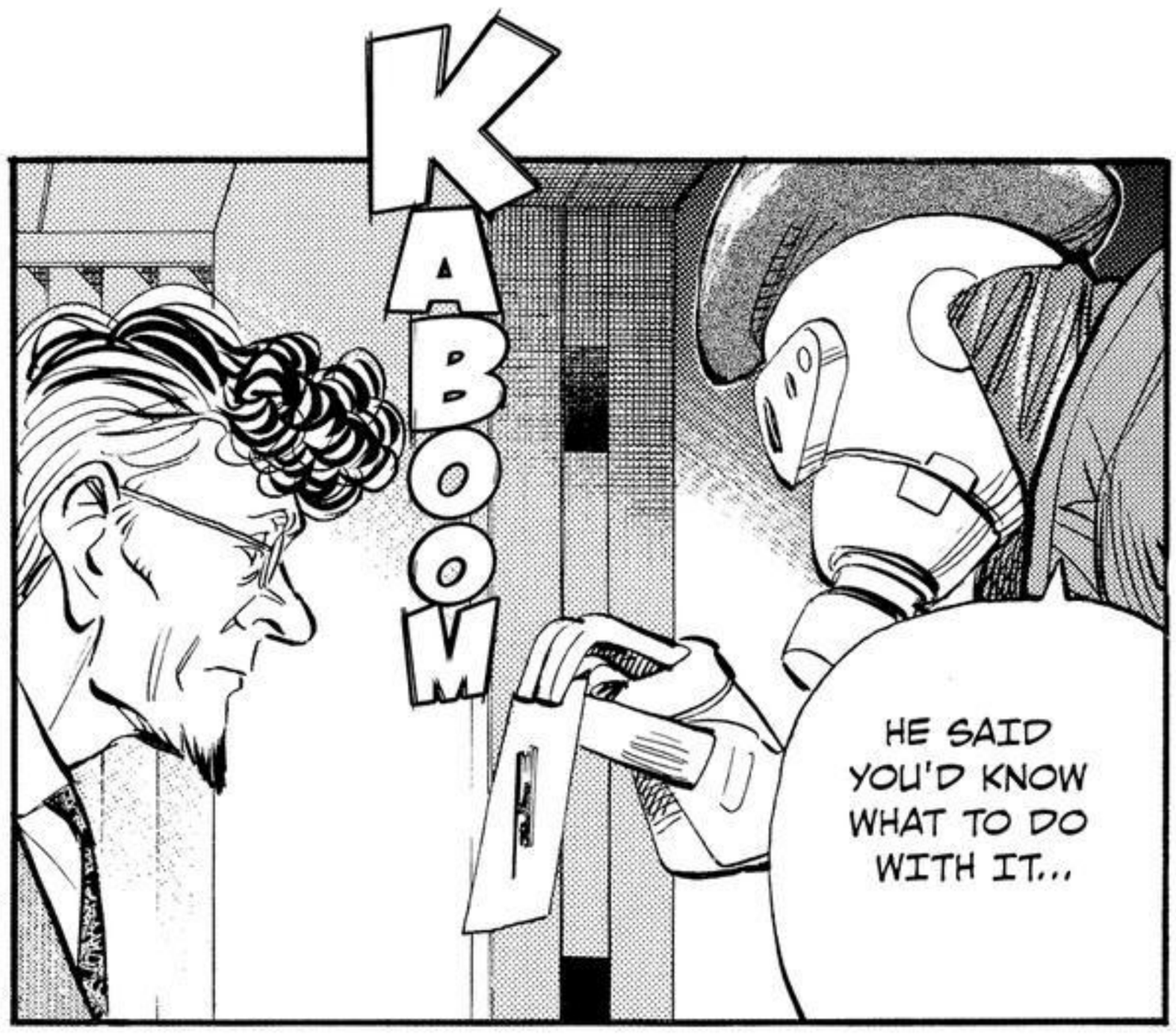

THIS...
LISTEN WELL, PROFESSOR TENMA...

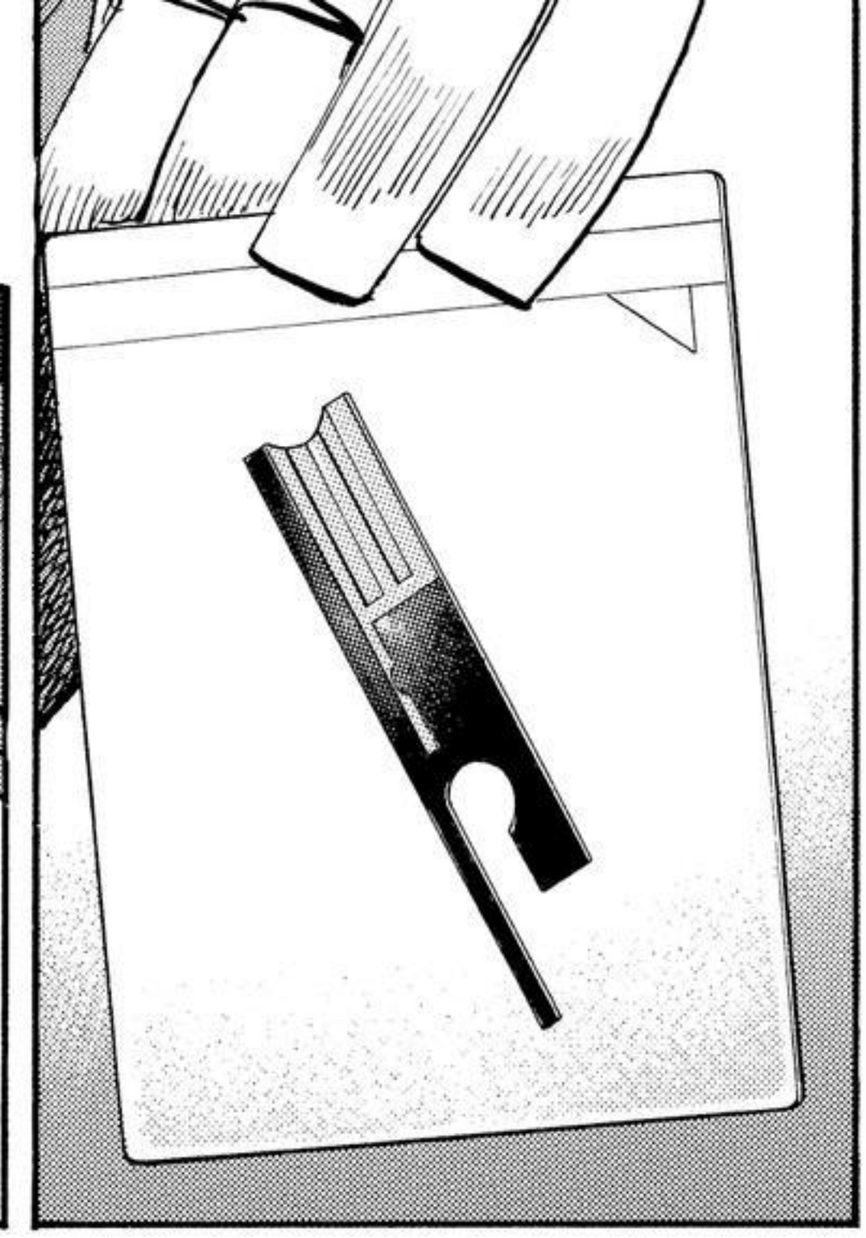

TENMA ...
BZZZZT

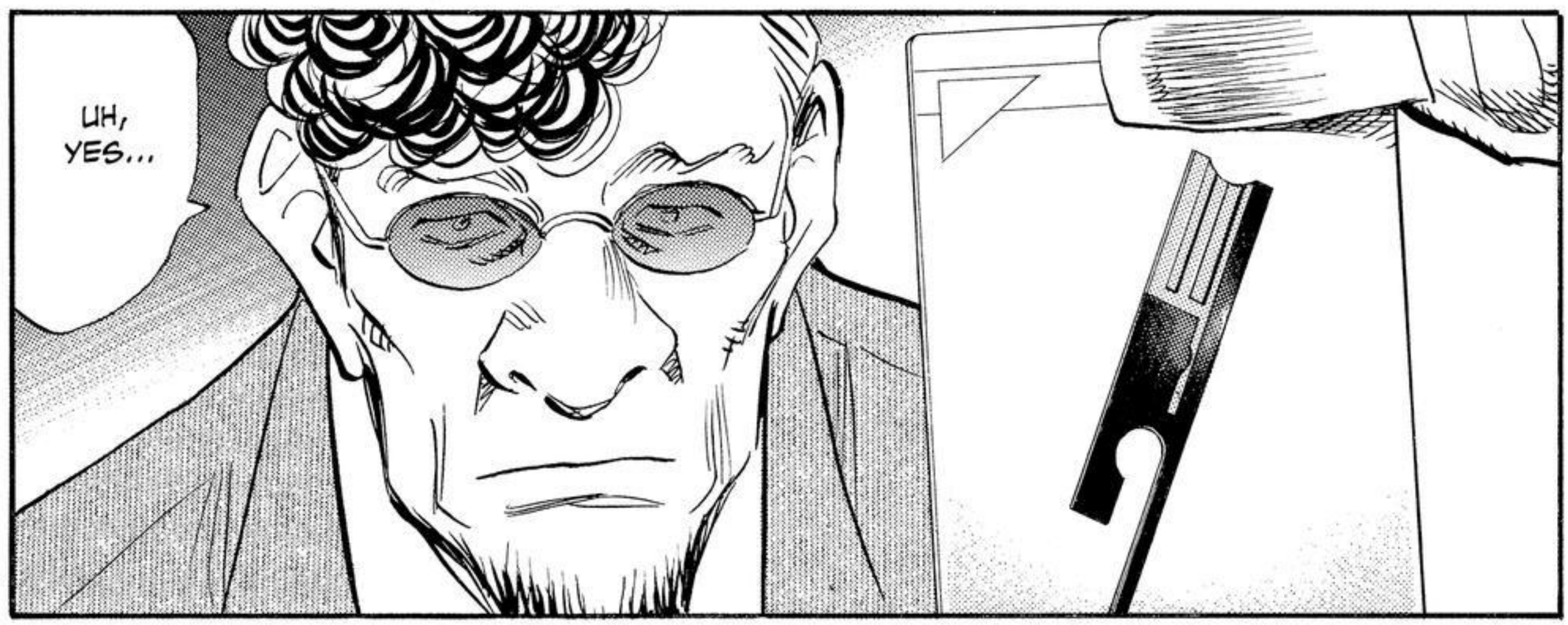
...A COPY OF A SPECIFIC PART OF MY BRAIN...
THIS CONTAINS ...

HE ASKED ME TO GIVE YOU THIS, SIR.

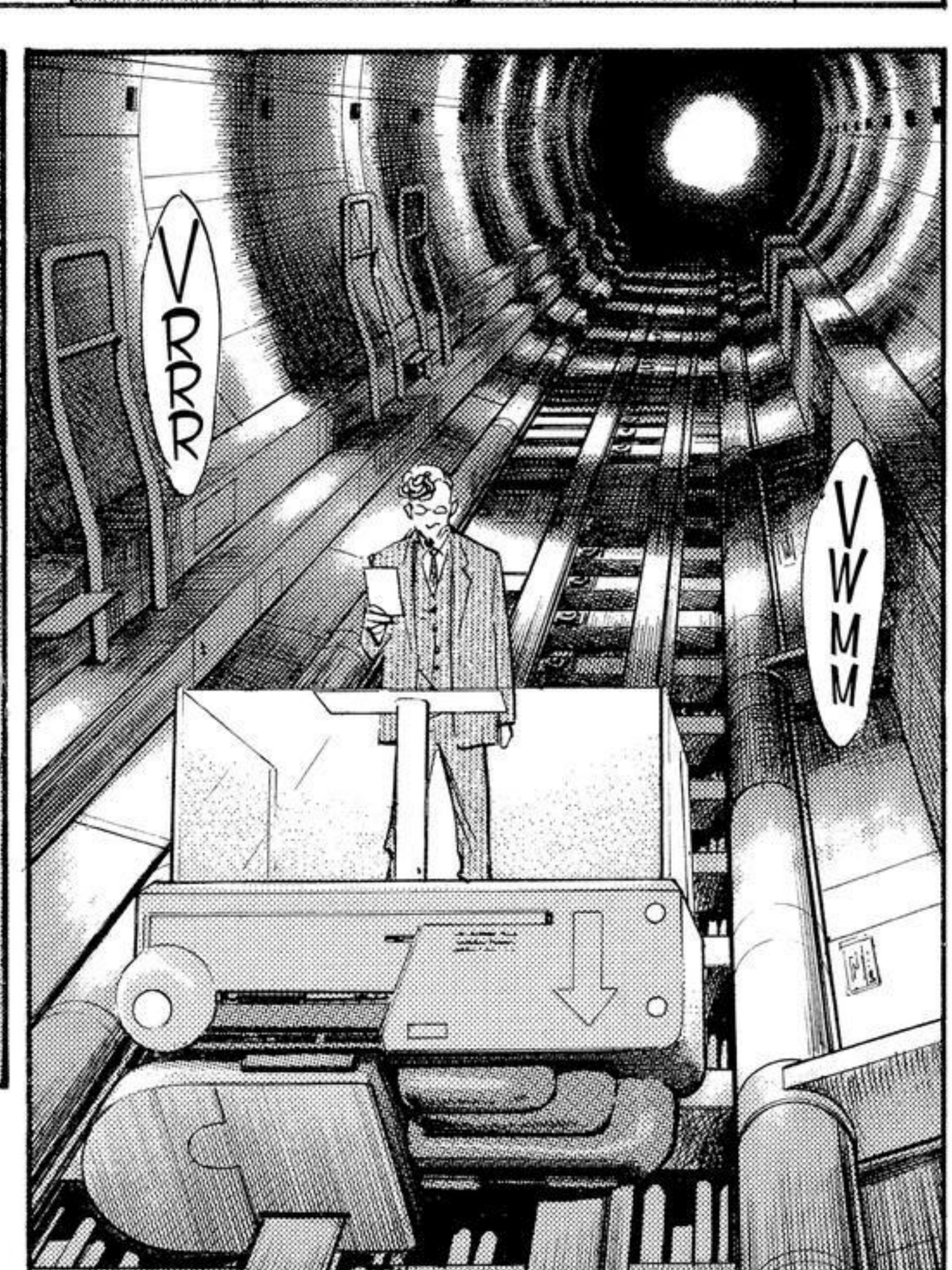
PROFESSOR TENMA... I'M CERTAIN THAT YOU CAN...
...
BZZZZT


KABOOM
HE SAID YOU'D KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH IT...



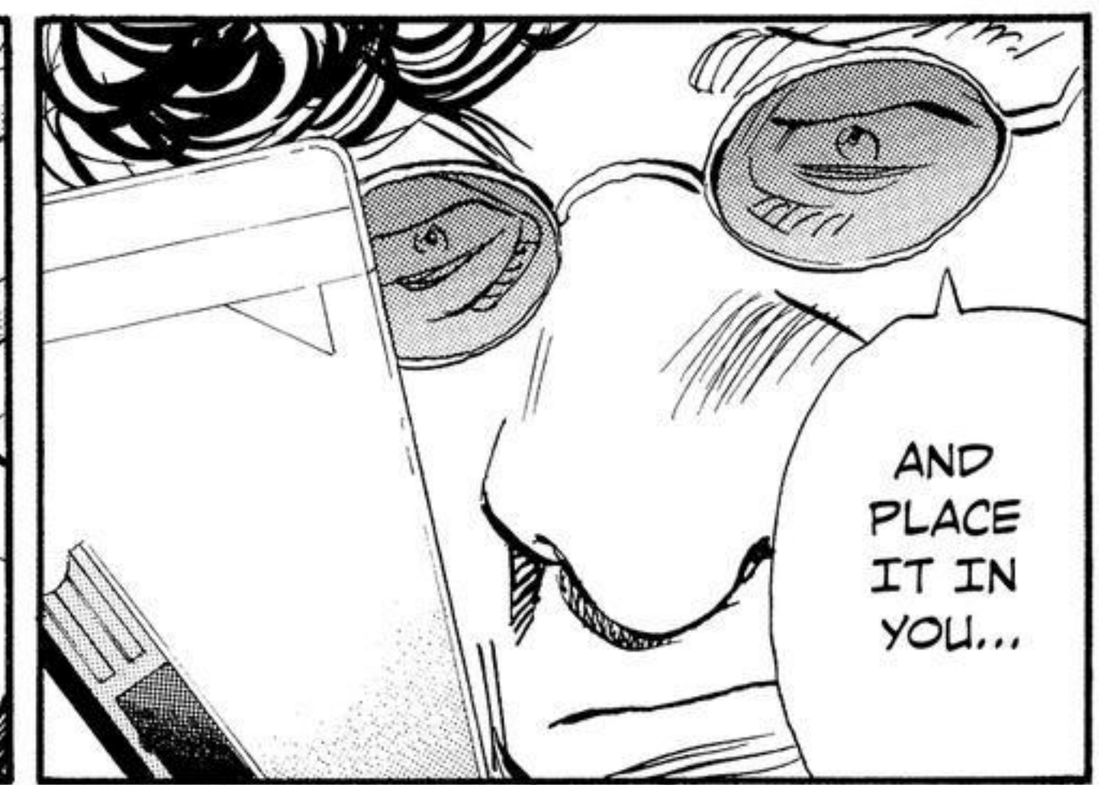

UH, YES...

VRR
VRRR


VRRR
VWMM

VRRR
VRRR

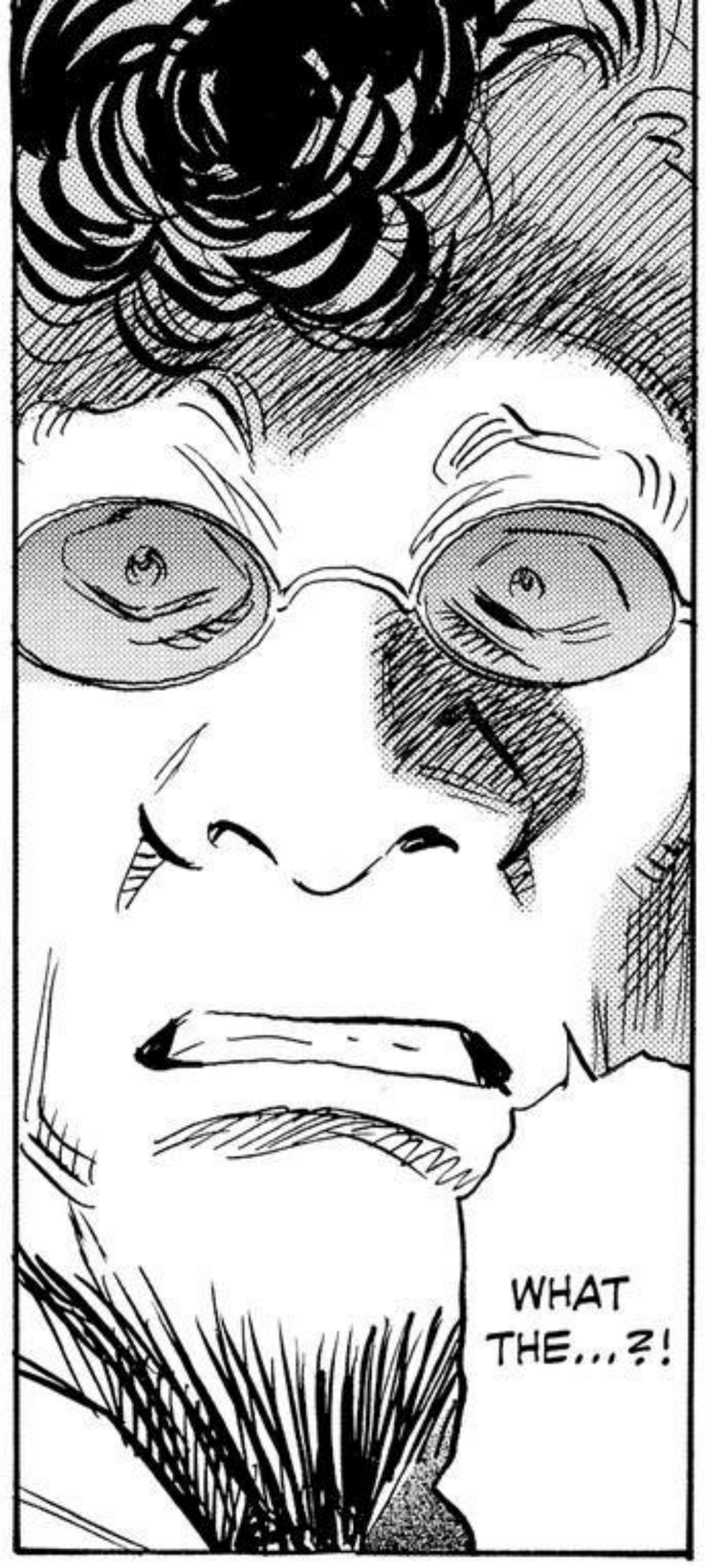
I'LL TAKE THIS...


AND PLACE IT IN YOU...

KLAT KLAT KLAT
KLATTA KLATTA KLAT KLAT

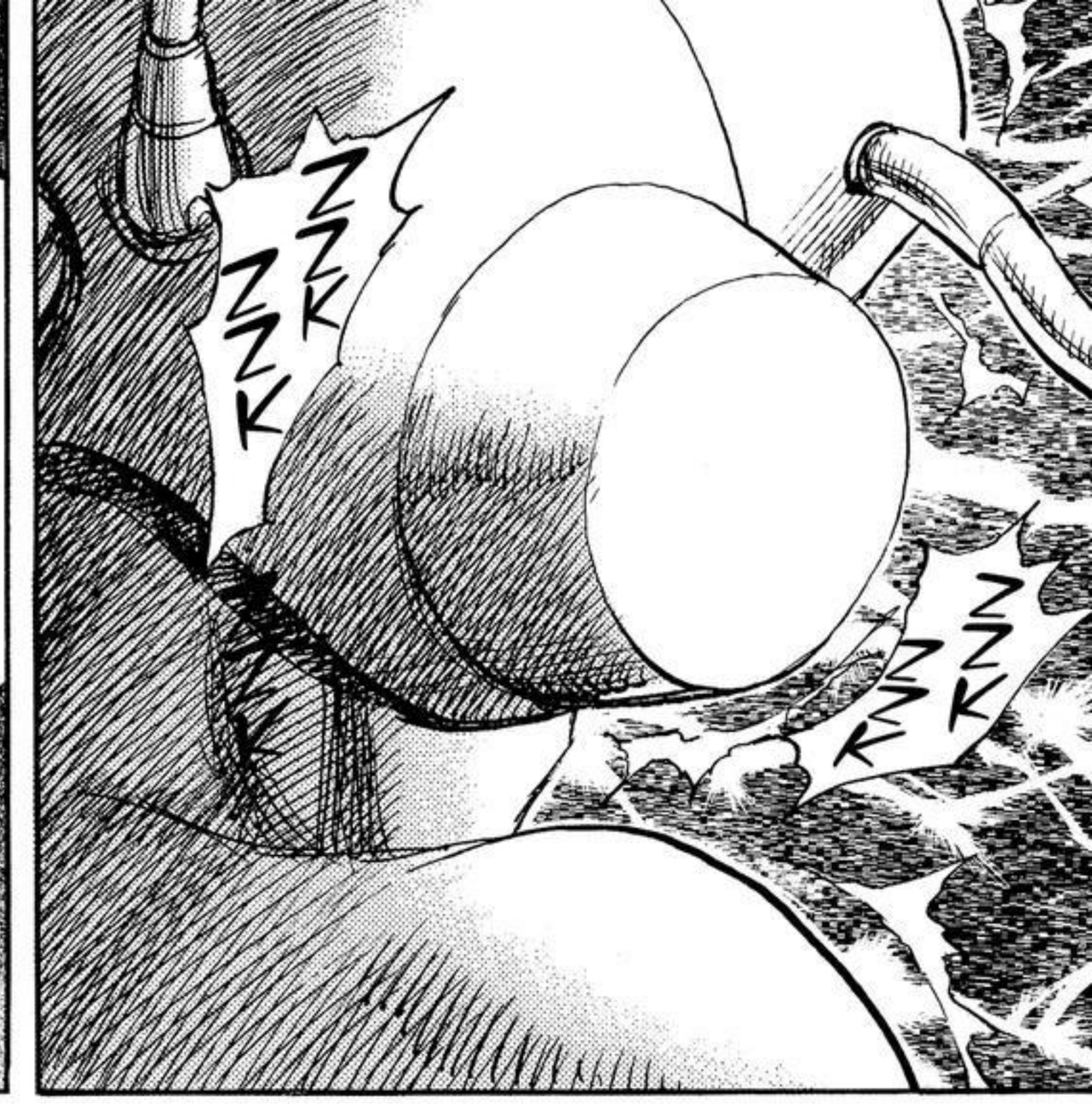
KTTKTTKTTKTTK
KTTKTTKTTKTTK
BEEP

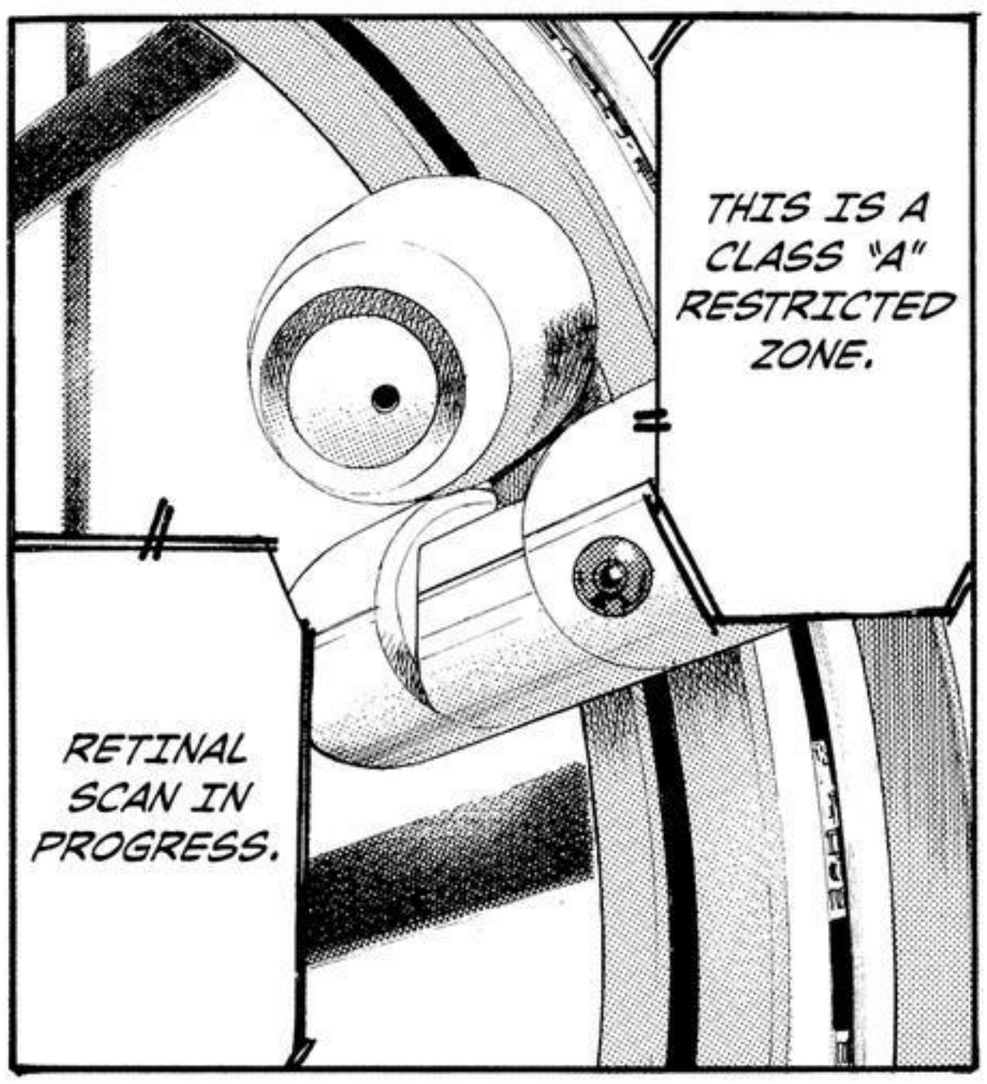
UMF!
BOOM



ZAK
ZNK
ZNK

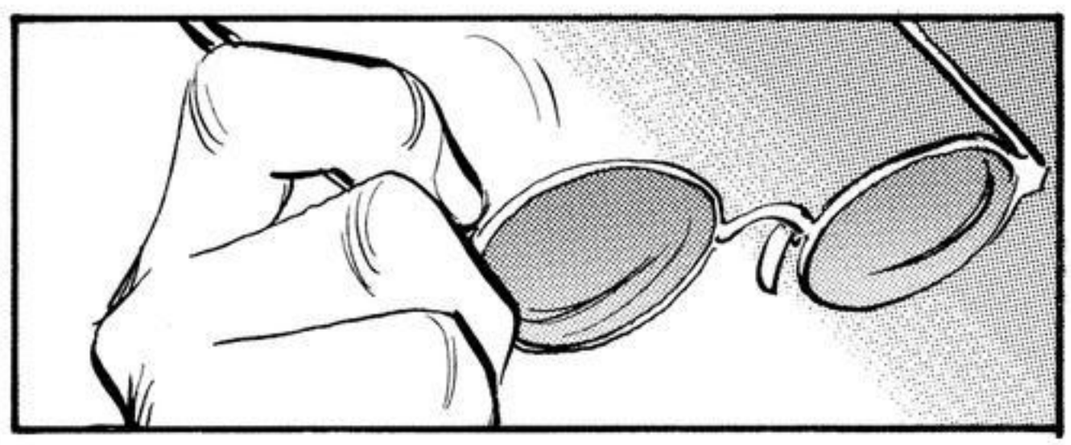
TH... THAT FACE!!

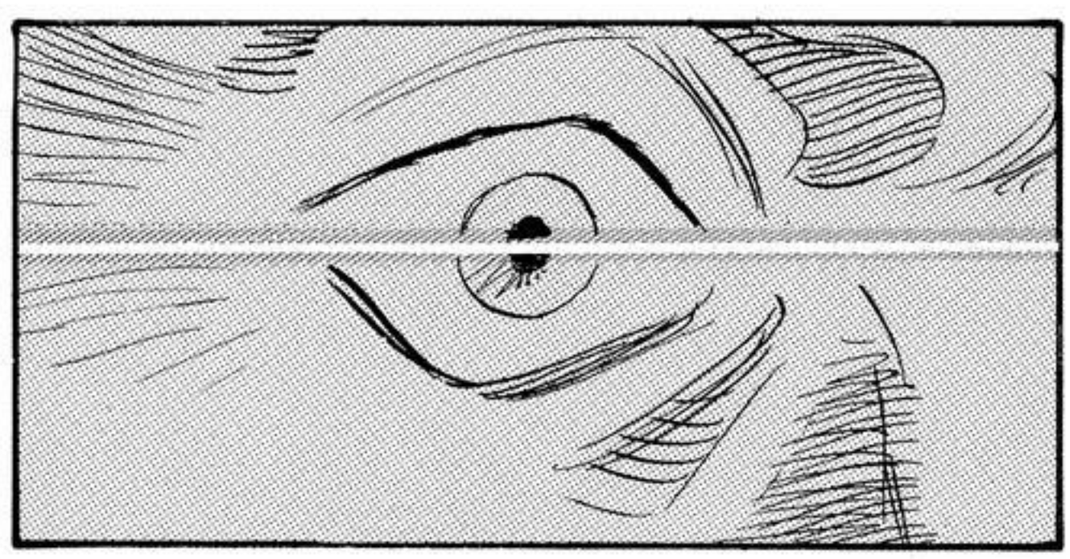

ZZZK
ZZZK
ZZZK
ZZZK


THIS IS A CLASS "A" RESTRICTED ZONE.
RETINAL SCAN IN PROGRESS.

KLAK
KLAK

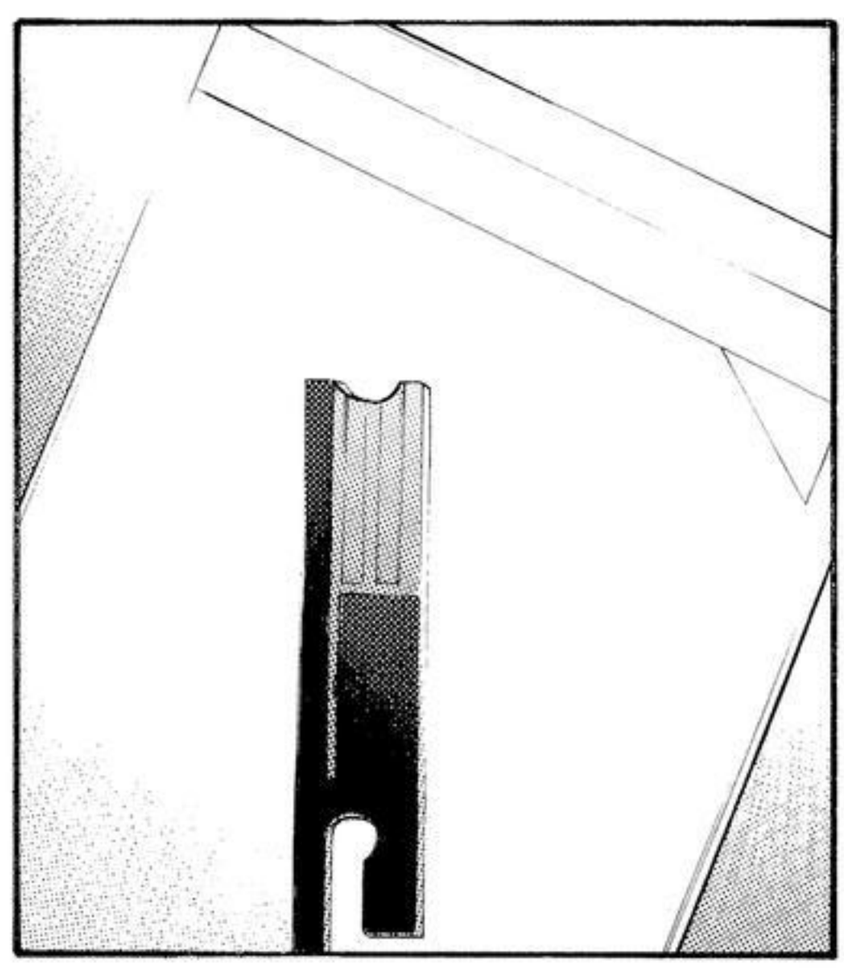
CLEARED. PLEASE PROCEED.

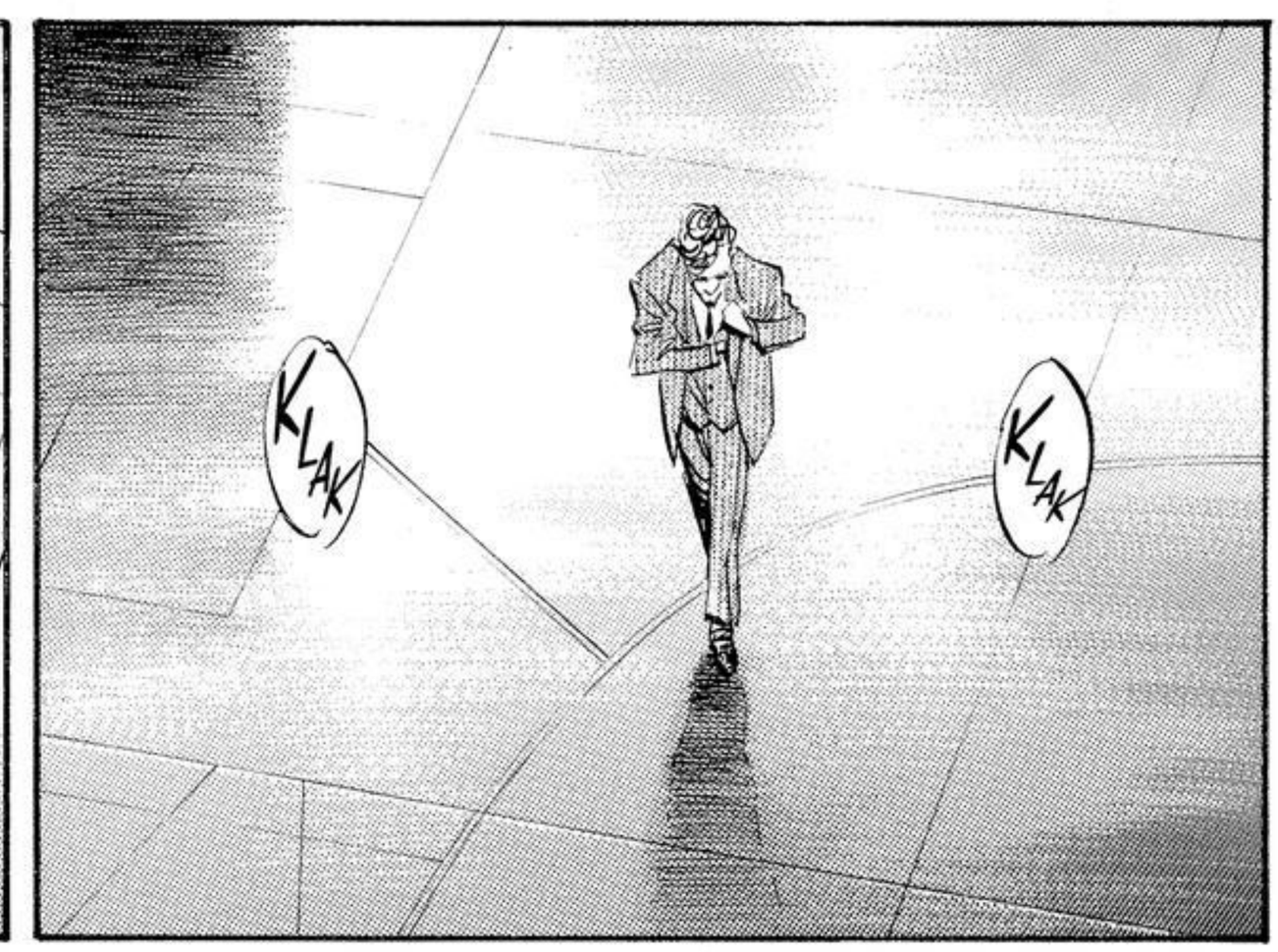




ZHMM

KLAK
KLAK




KLAK
KLAK

VRRR

VRRM

TO BRING YOU BACK TO LIFE, ATOM...

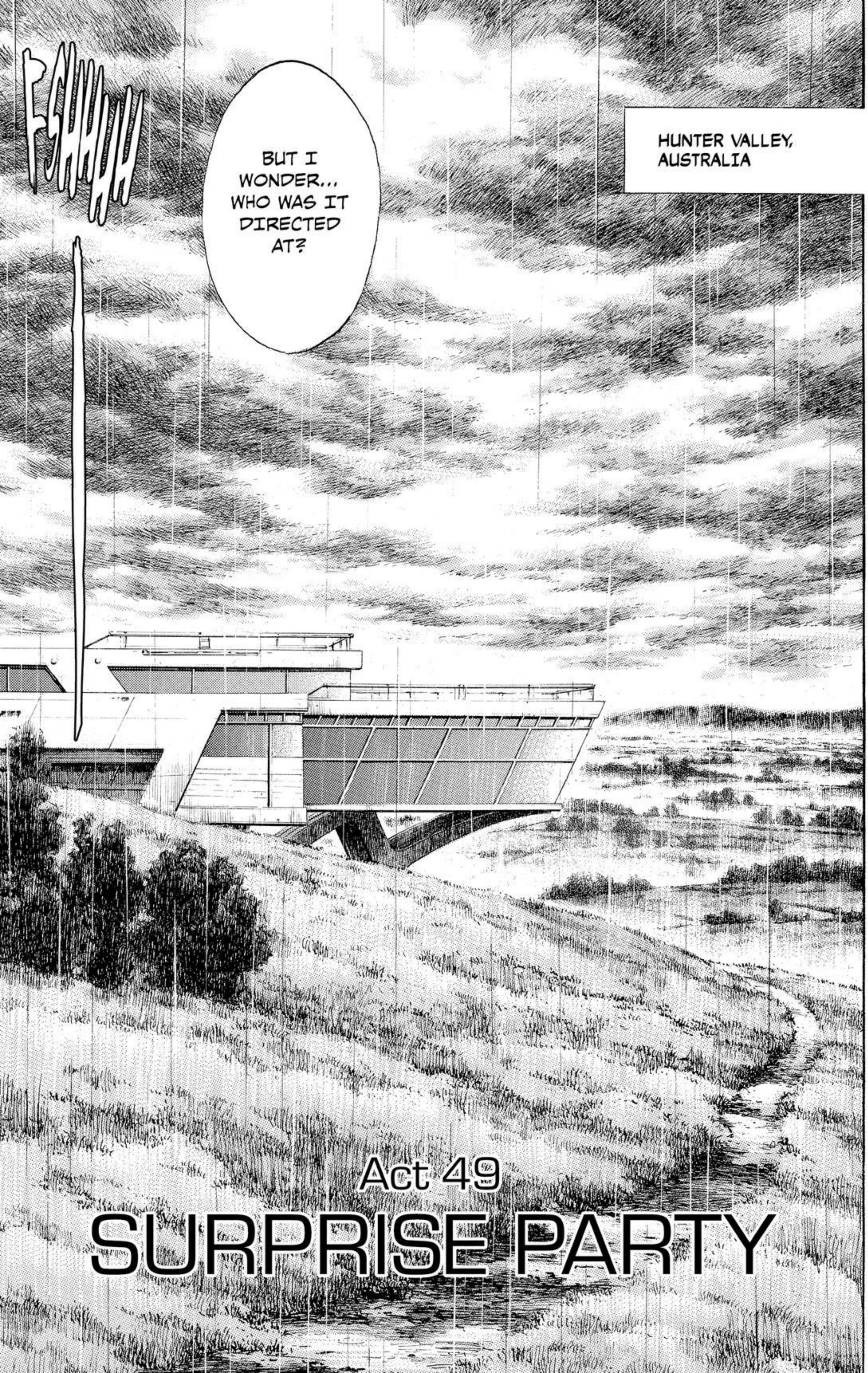
Act 49 SURPRISE PARTY

!!

PLSH

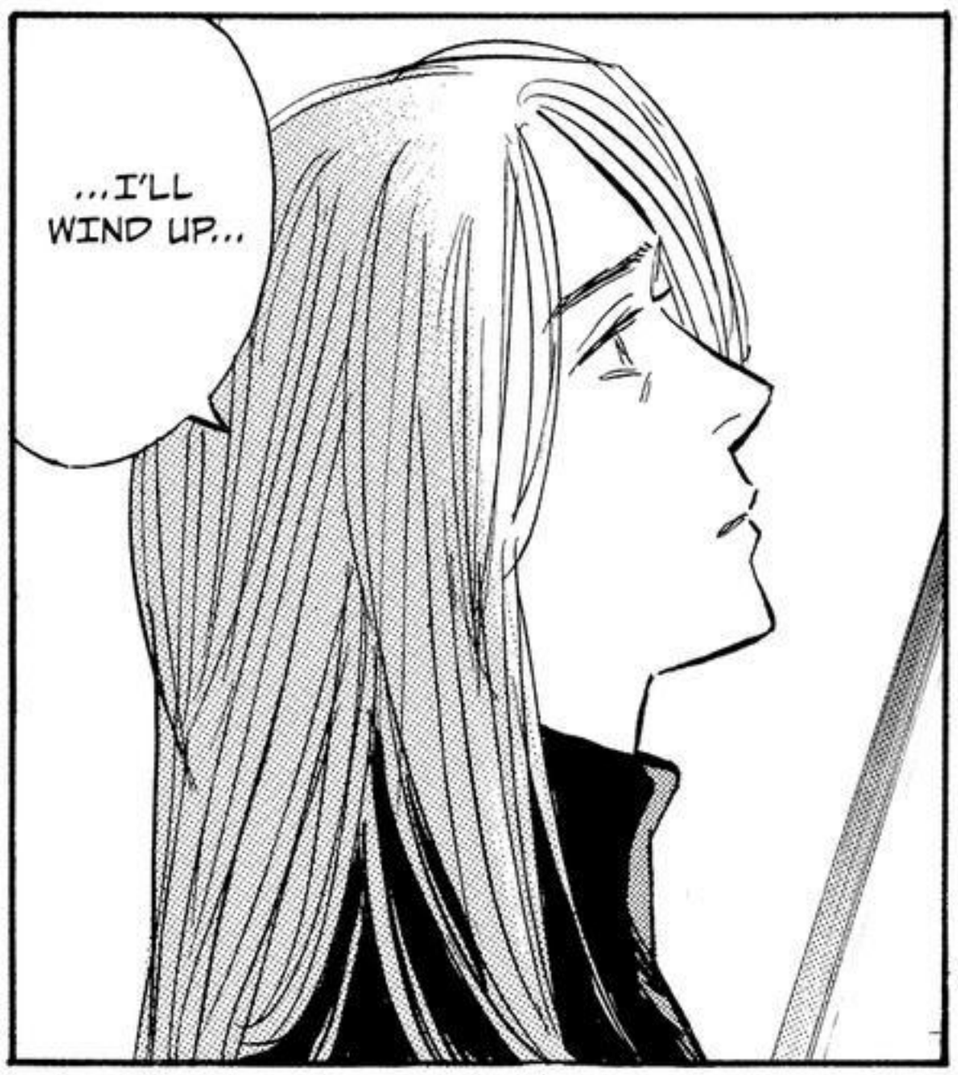
YOU HAD SUCH HATRED IN YOU...
GESICHT...

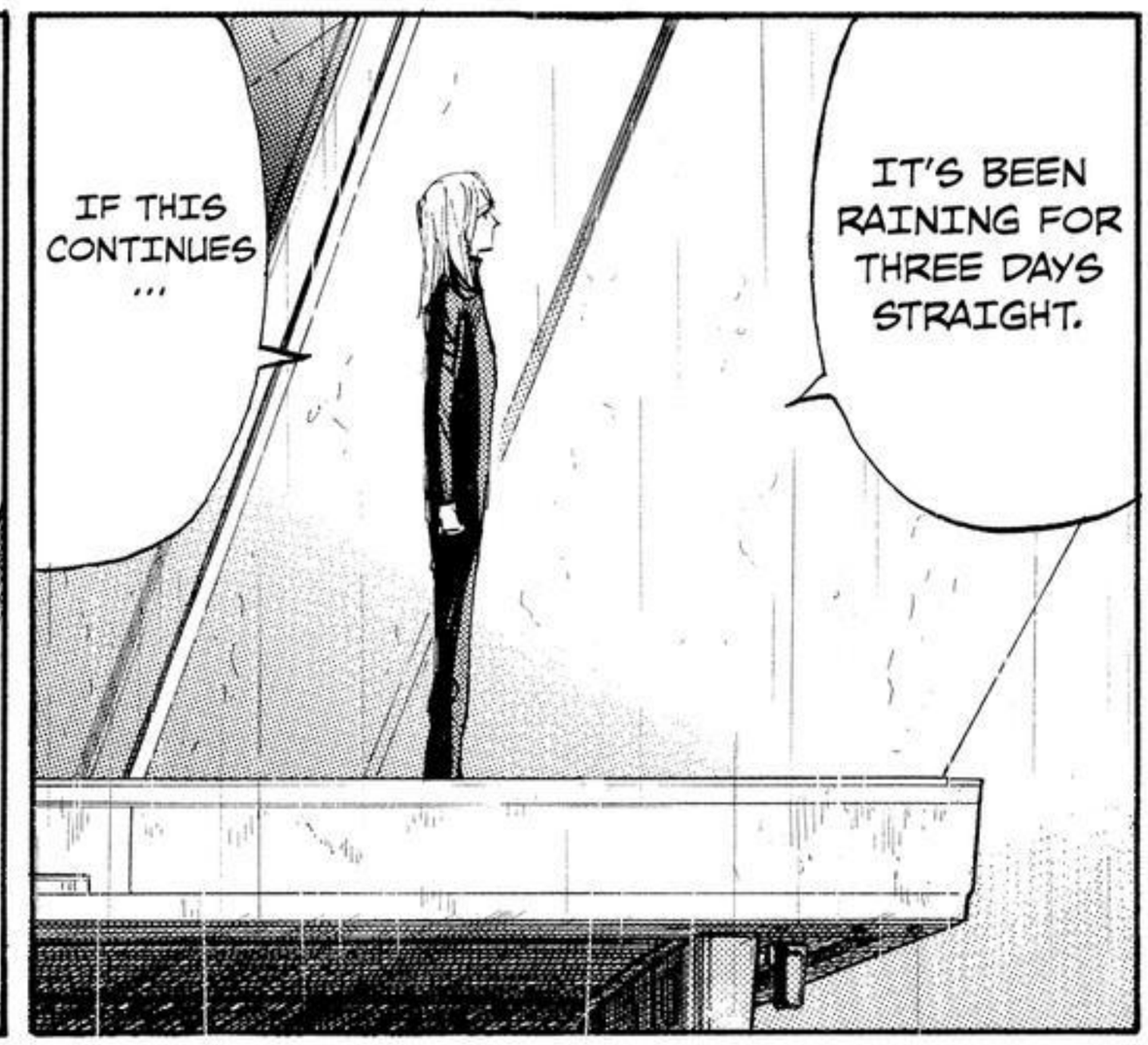
BUT...
...WHEN YOU DIED ...

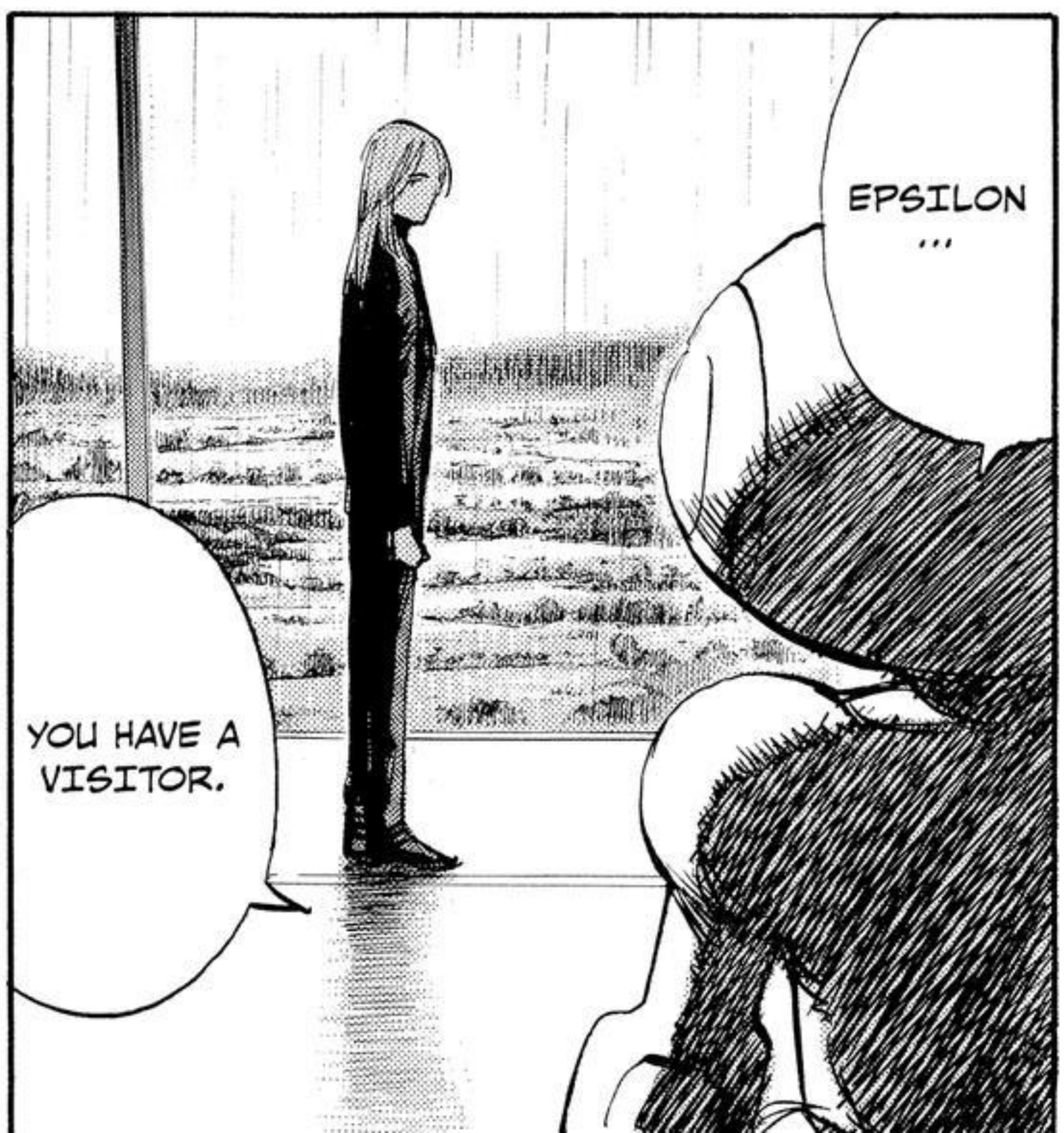


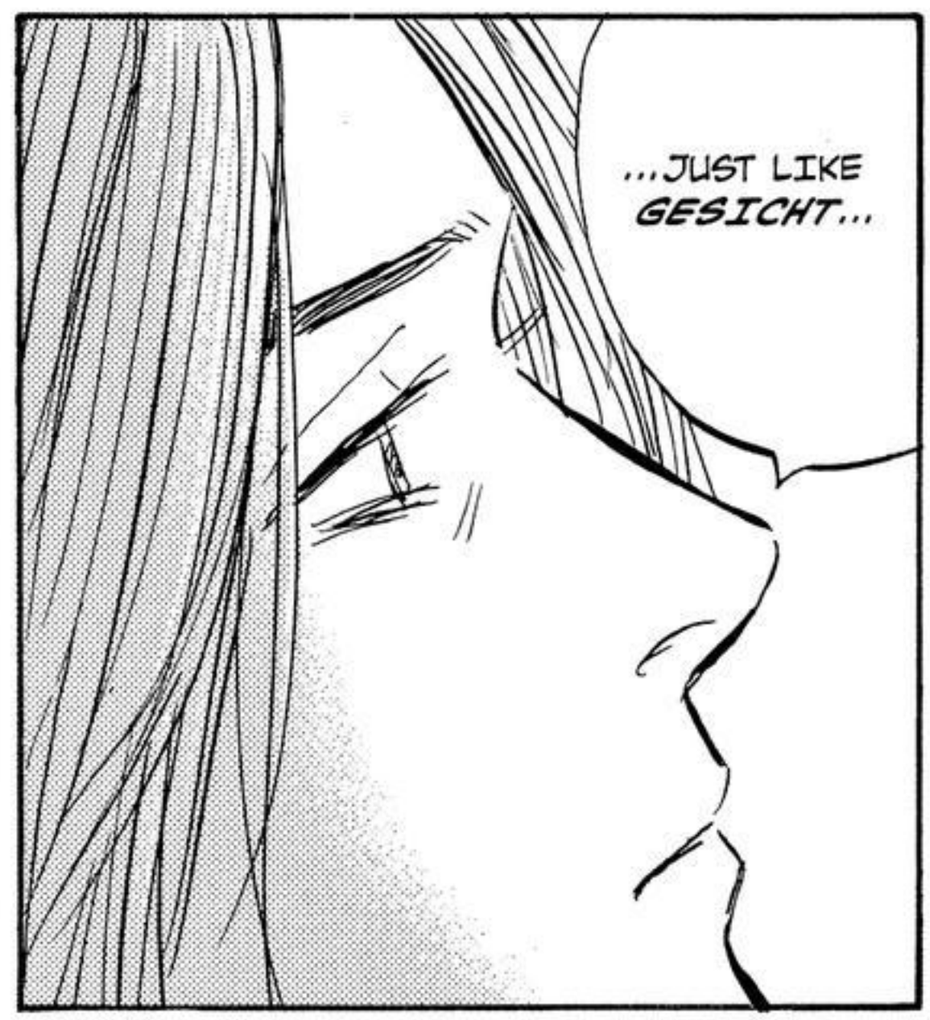
Act 49
SURPRISE PARTY

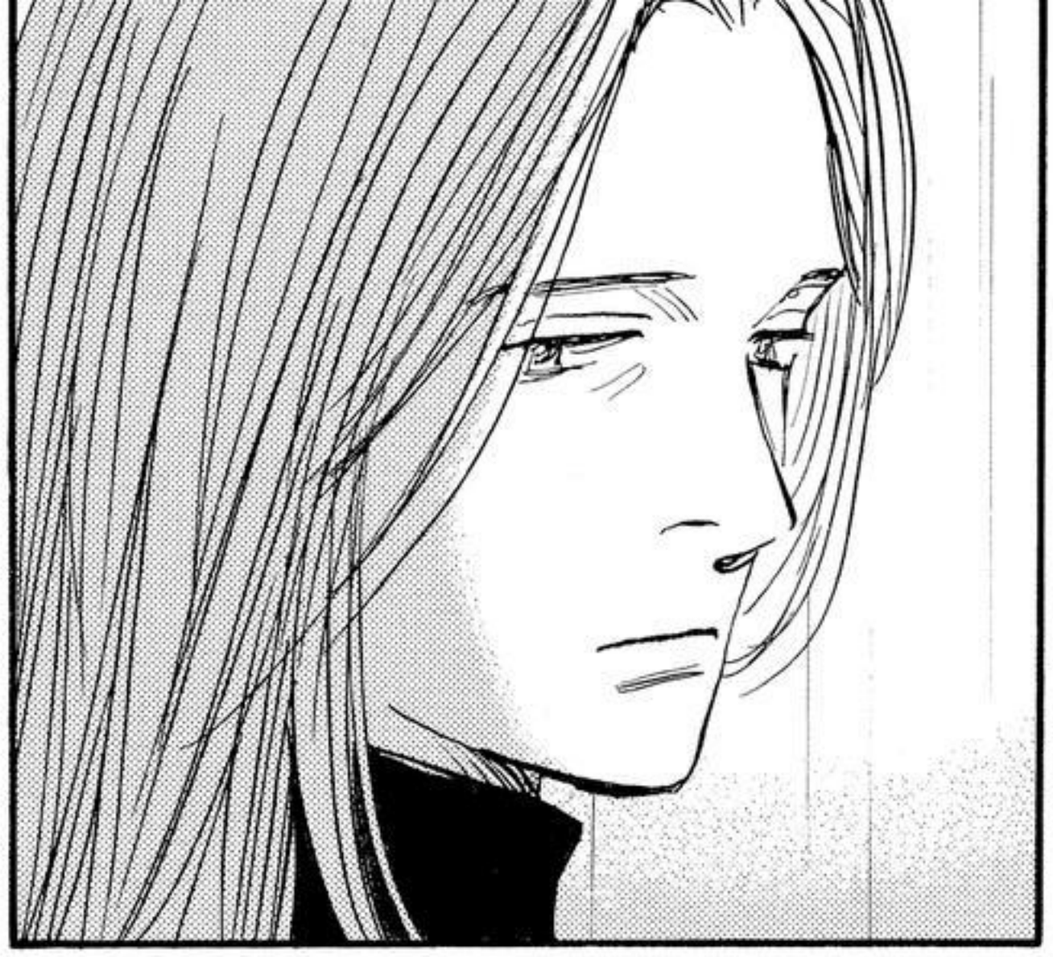
FSHHH

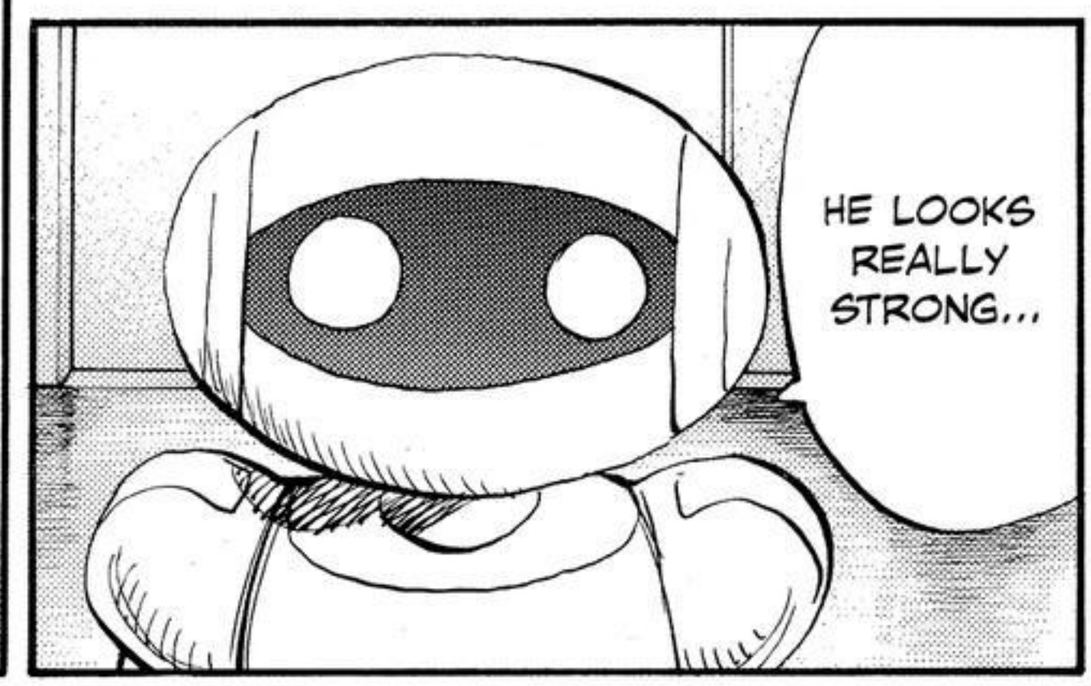

...I'LL WIND UP...

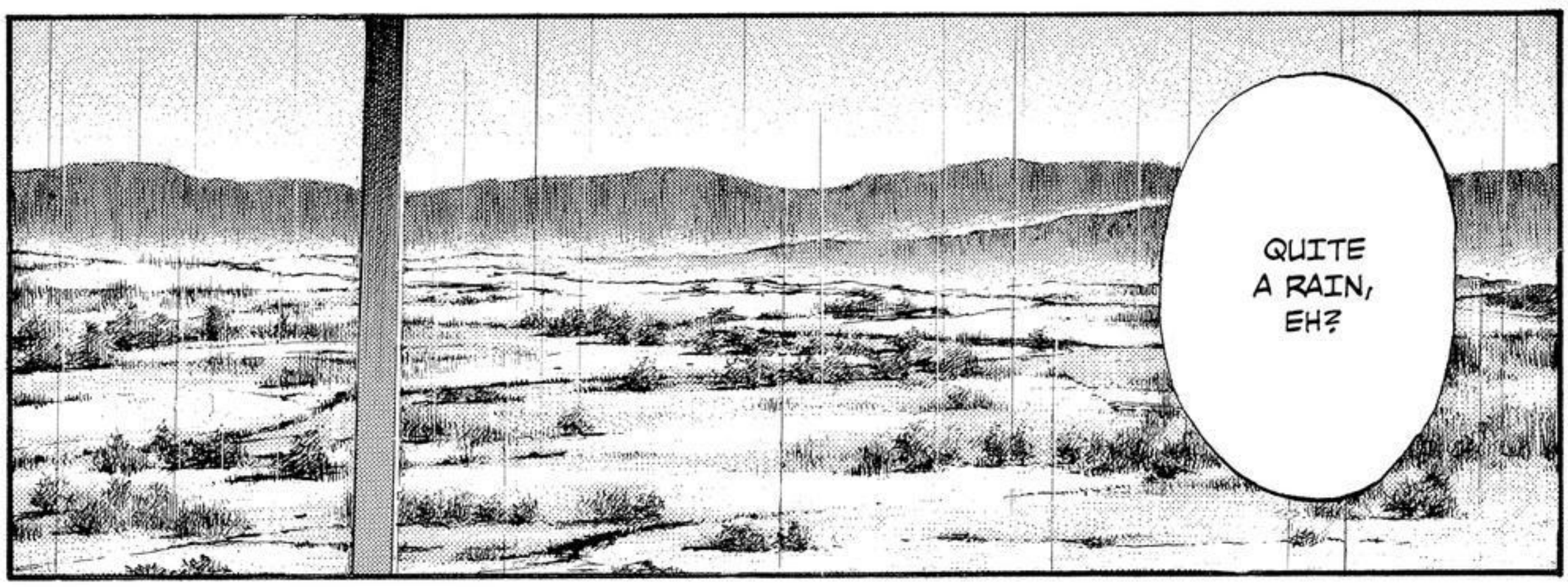

IF THIS CONTINUES ...
IT'S BEEN RAINING FOR THREE DAYS STRAIGHT.

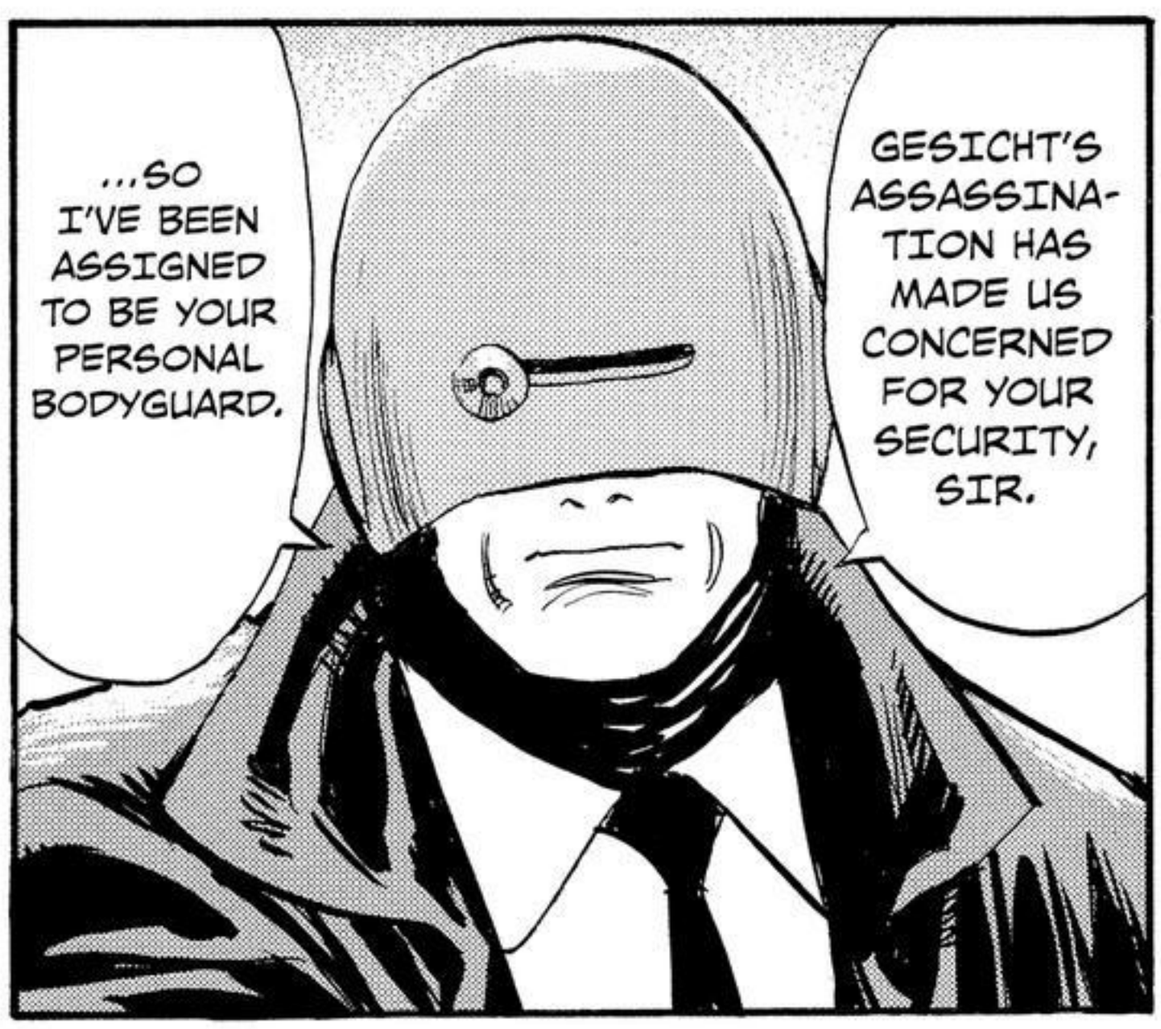

YOU HAVE A VISITOR.
EPSILON ...

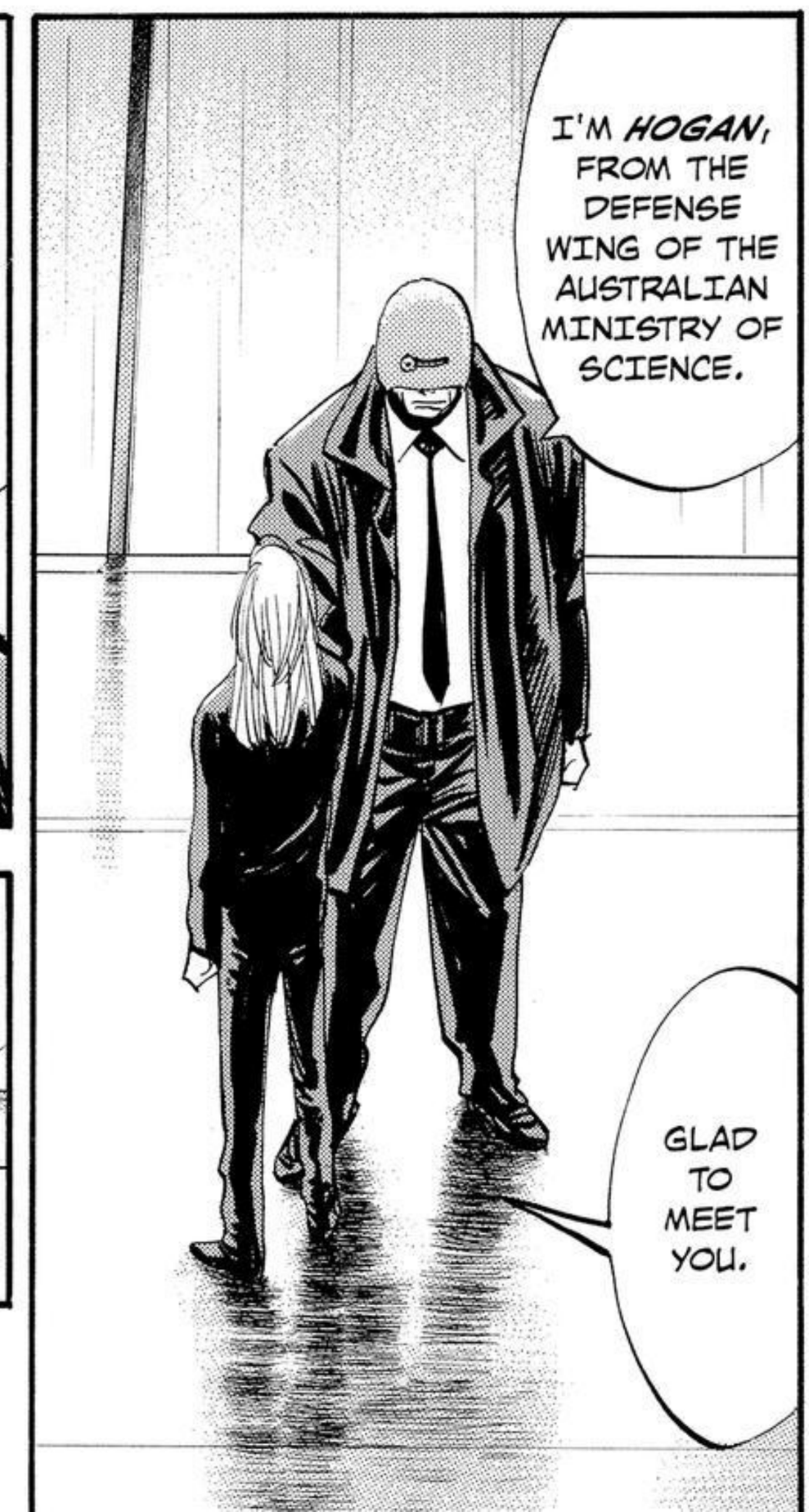

...JUST LIKE GESICHT...




HE LOOKS REALLY STRONG...

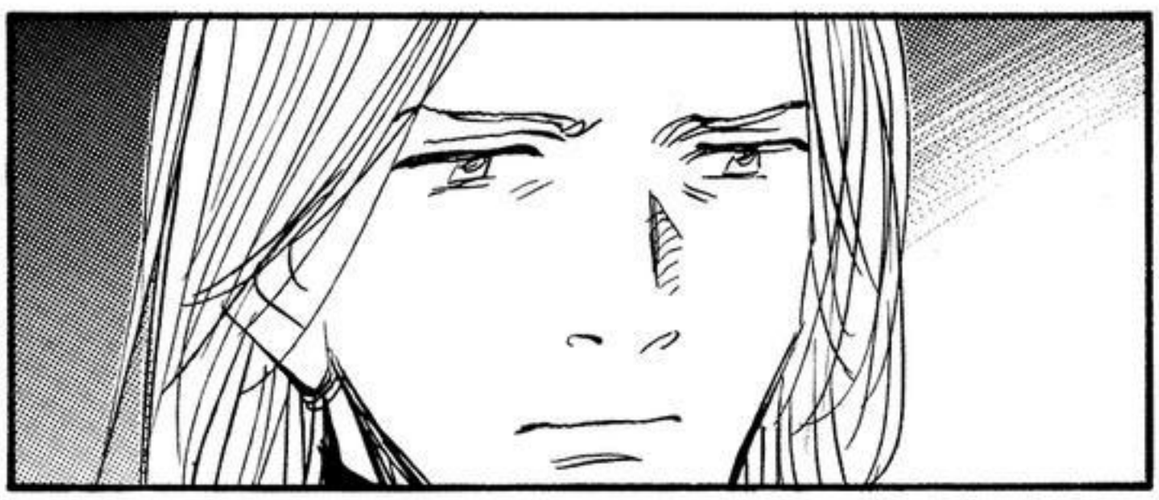

QUITE A RAIN, EH?

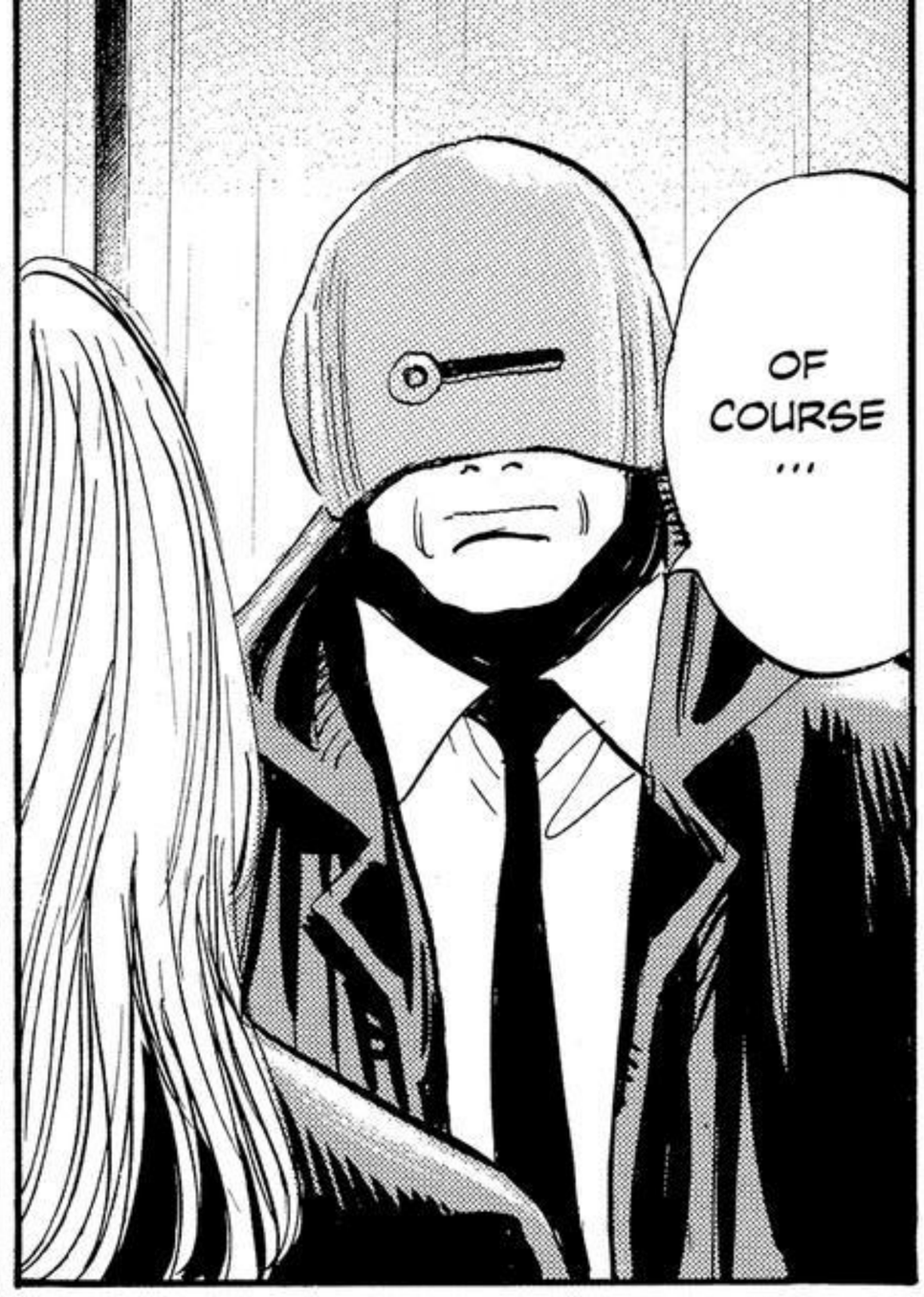

...SO I'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO BE YOUR PERSONAL BODYGUARD.
GESICHT'S ASSASSINATION HAS MADE US CONCERNED FOR YOUR SECURITY, SIR.

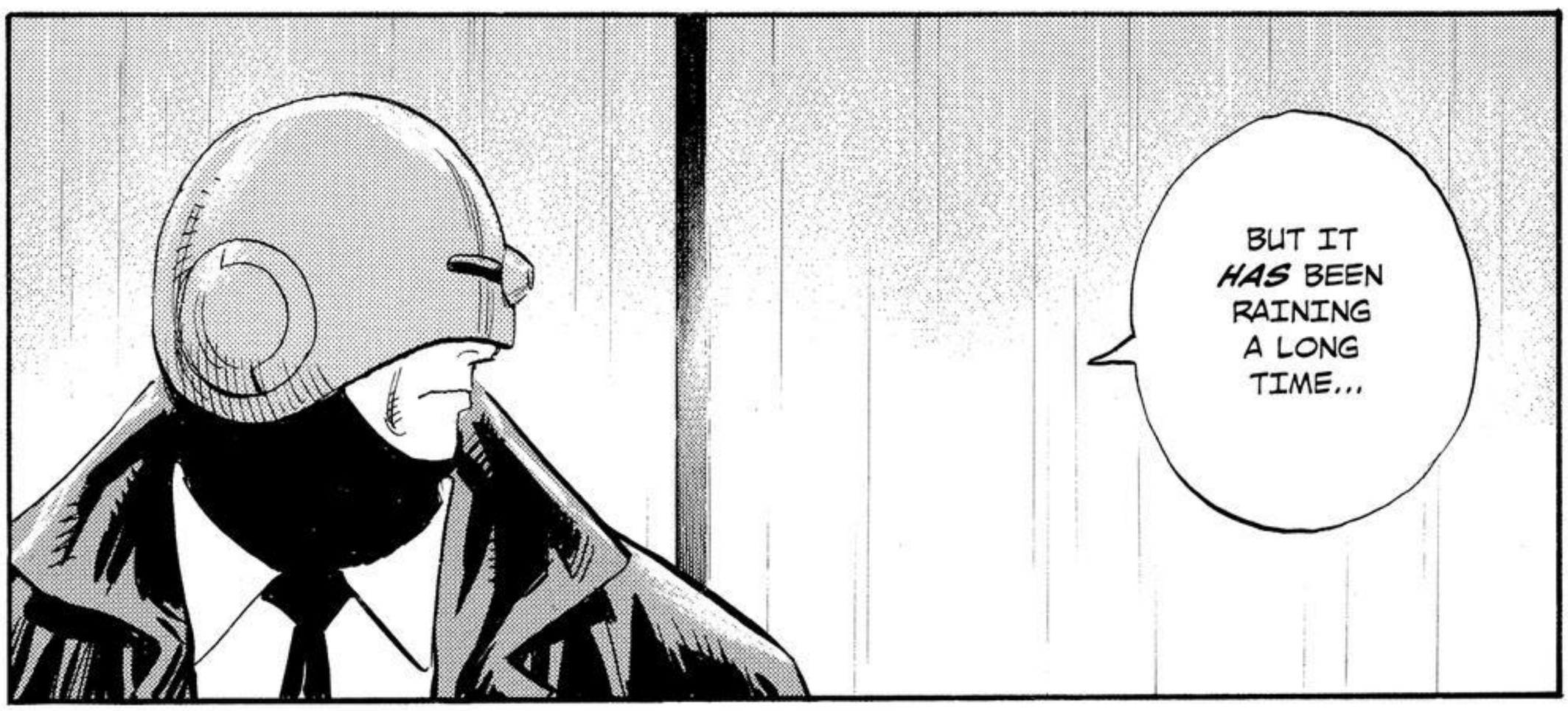

I'M *HOGAN*, FROM THE DEFENSE WING OF THE AUSTRALIAN MINISTRY OF SCIENCE.
GLAD TO MEET YOU.

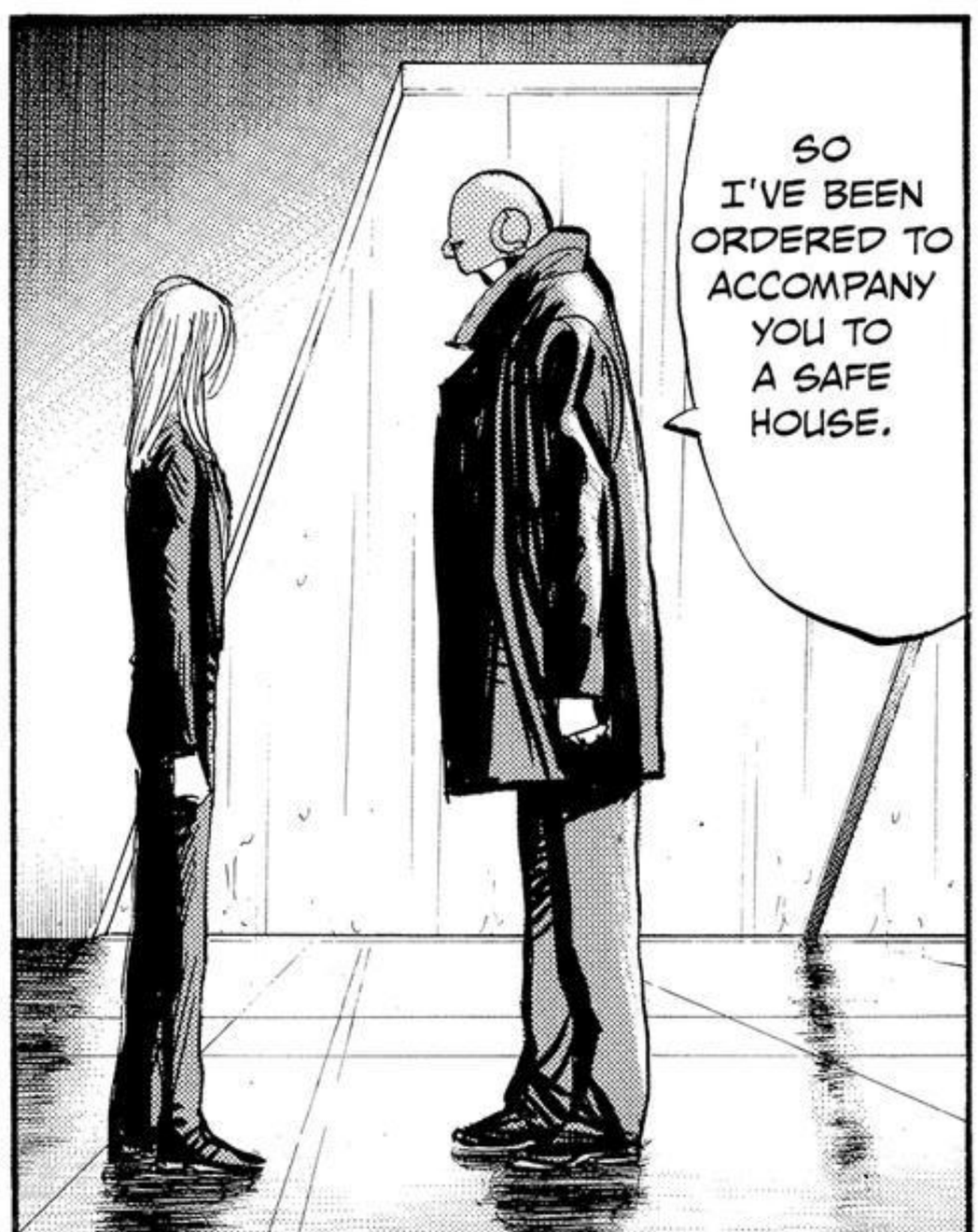
THE CONSENSUS IS THAT YOU'LL BE THE NEXT TARGET.
...

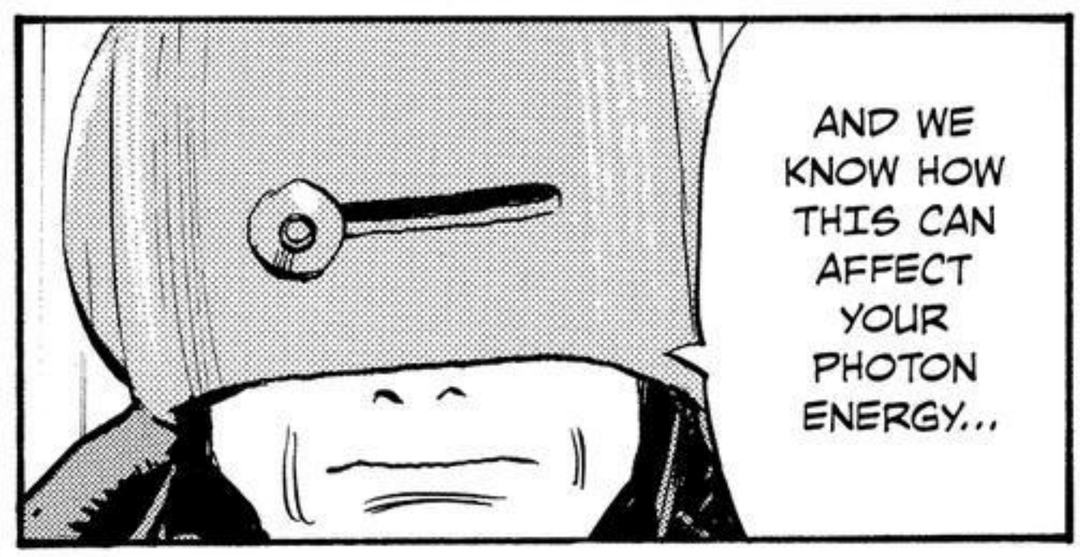
...I KNOW I'M NOT IN YOUR LEAGUE WHEN IT COMES TO POWER...



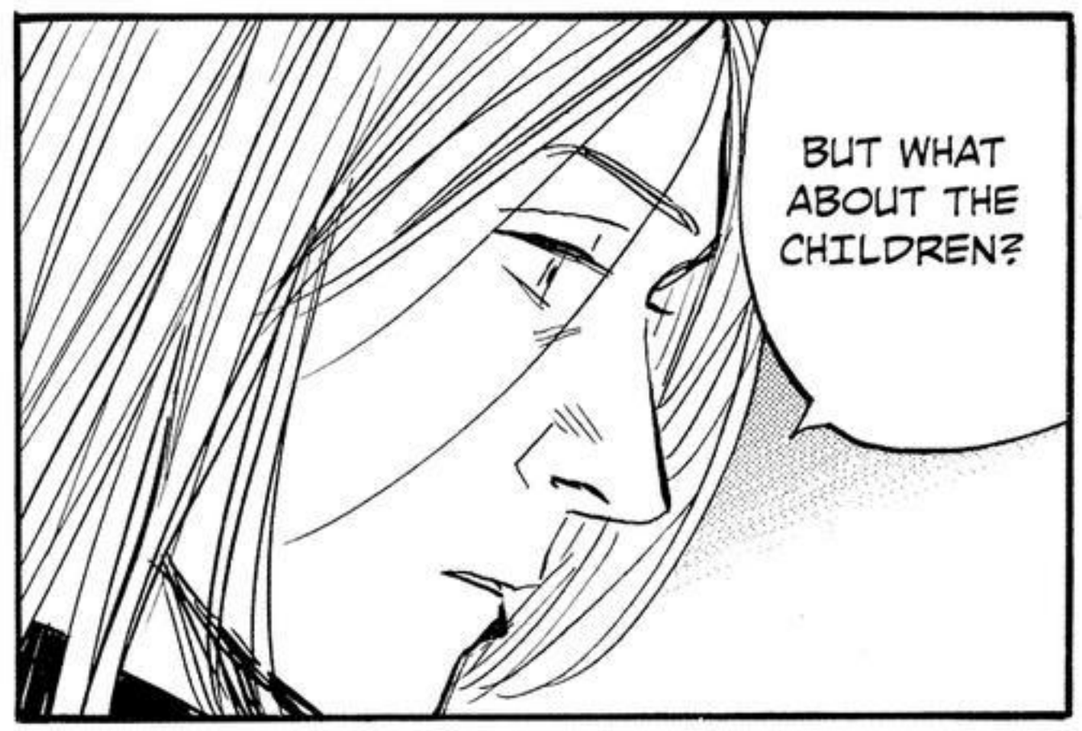

OF COURSE ...

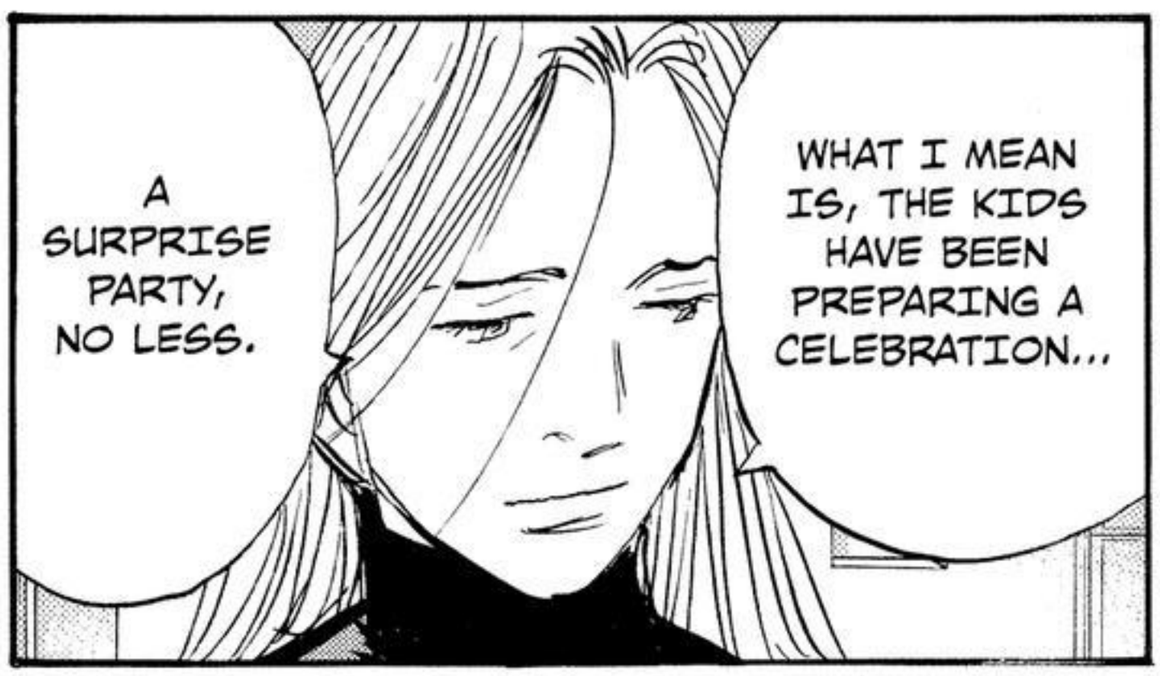

BUT IT *HAS* BEEN RAINING A LONG TIME...

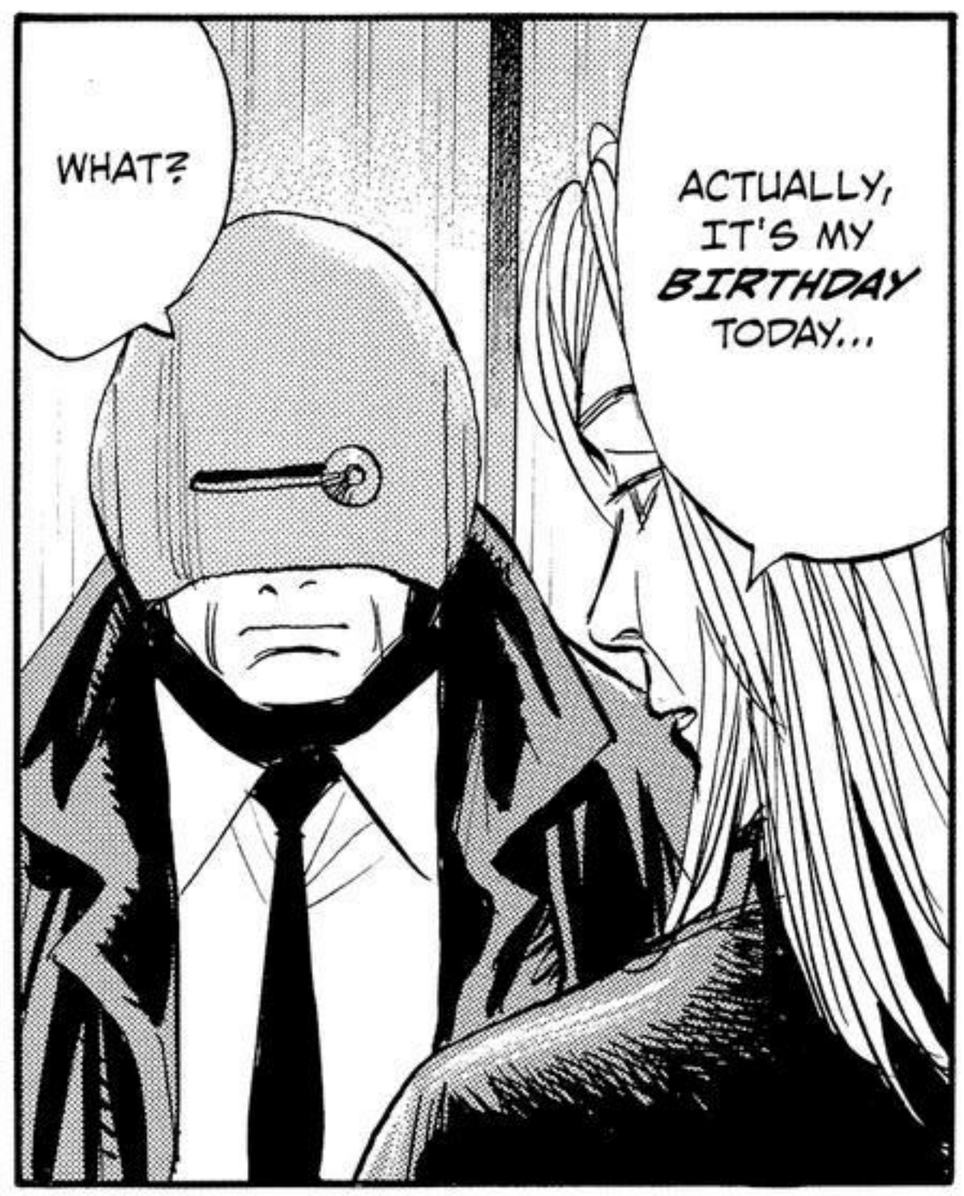

SO I'VE BEEN ORDERED TO ACCOMPANY YOU TO A SAFE HOUSE.

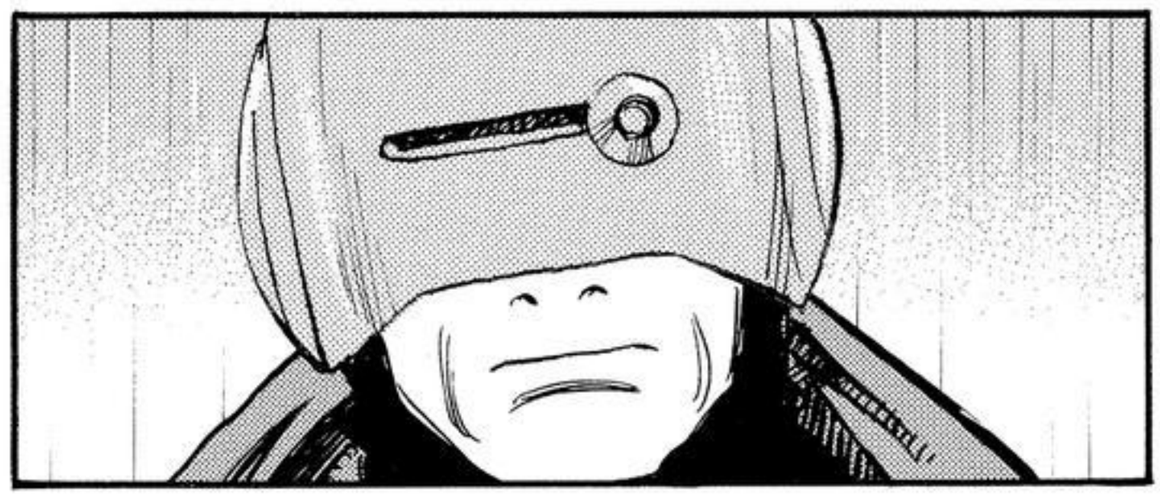

AND WE KNOW HOW THIS CAN AFFECT YOUR PHOTON ENERGY...

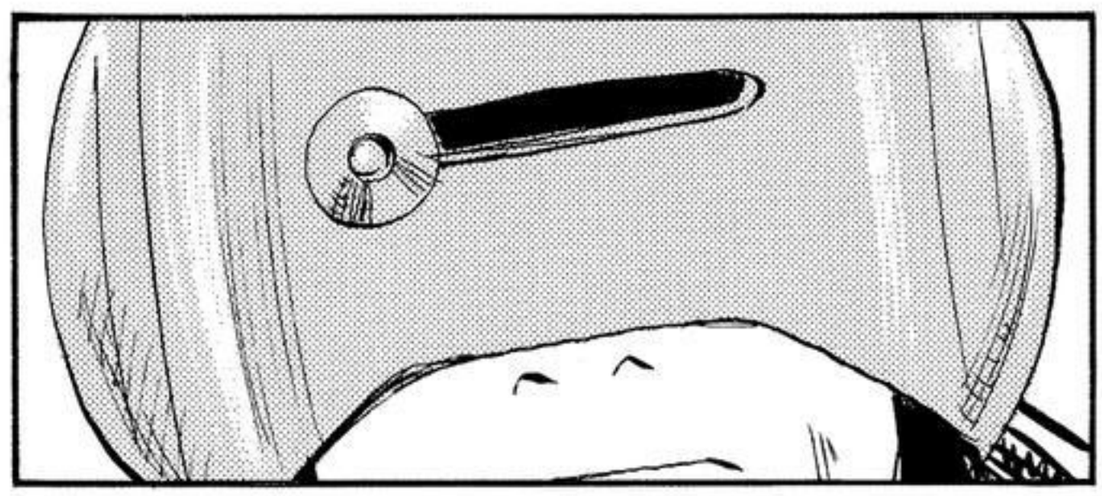
I'M SORRY, BUT WE CAN'T AFFORD TO INVOLVE THEM IN THIS.


BUT WHAT ABOUT THE CHILDREN?


A SURPRISE PARTY, NO LESS.
WHAT I MEAN IS, THE KIDS HAVE BEEN PREPARING A CELELBRATION...

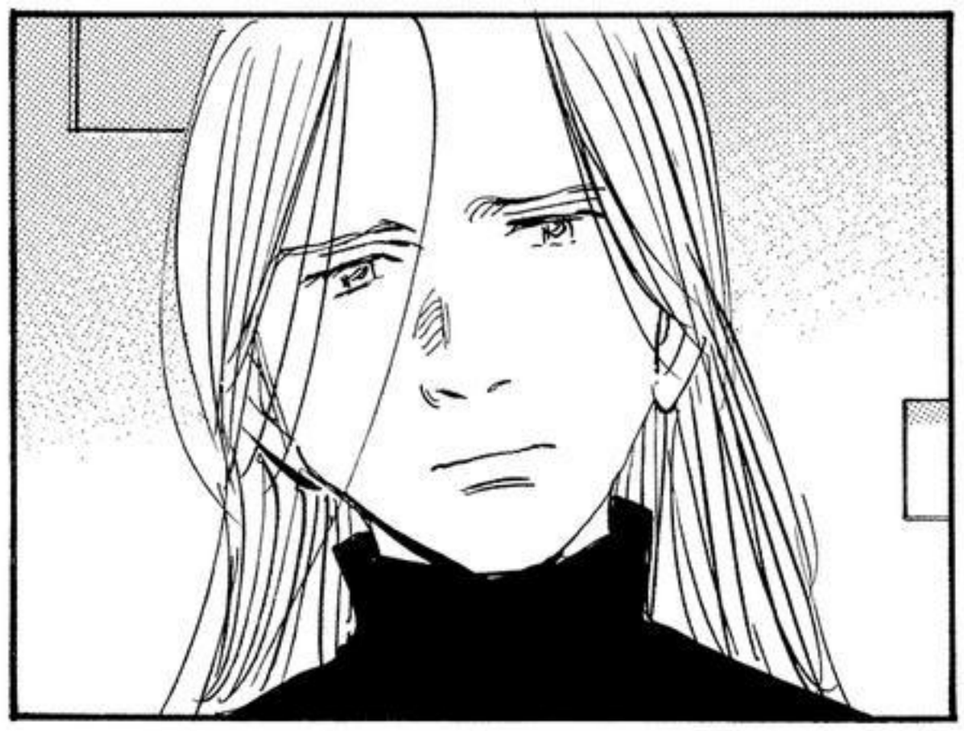

WHAT?
ACTUALLY, IT'S MY *BIRTHDAY* TODAY...

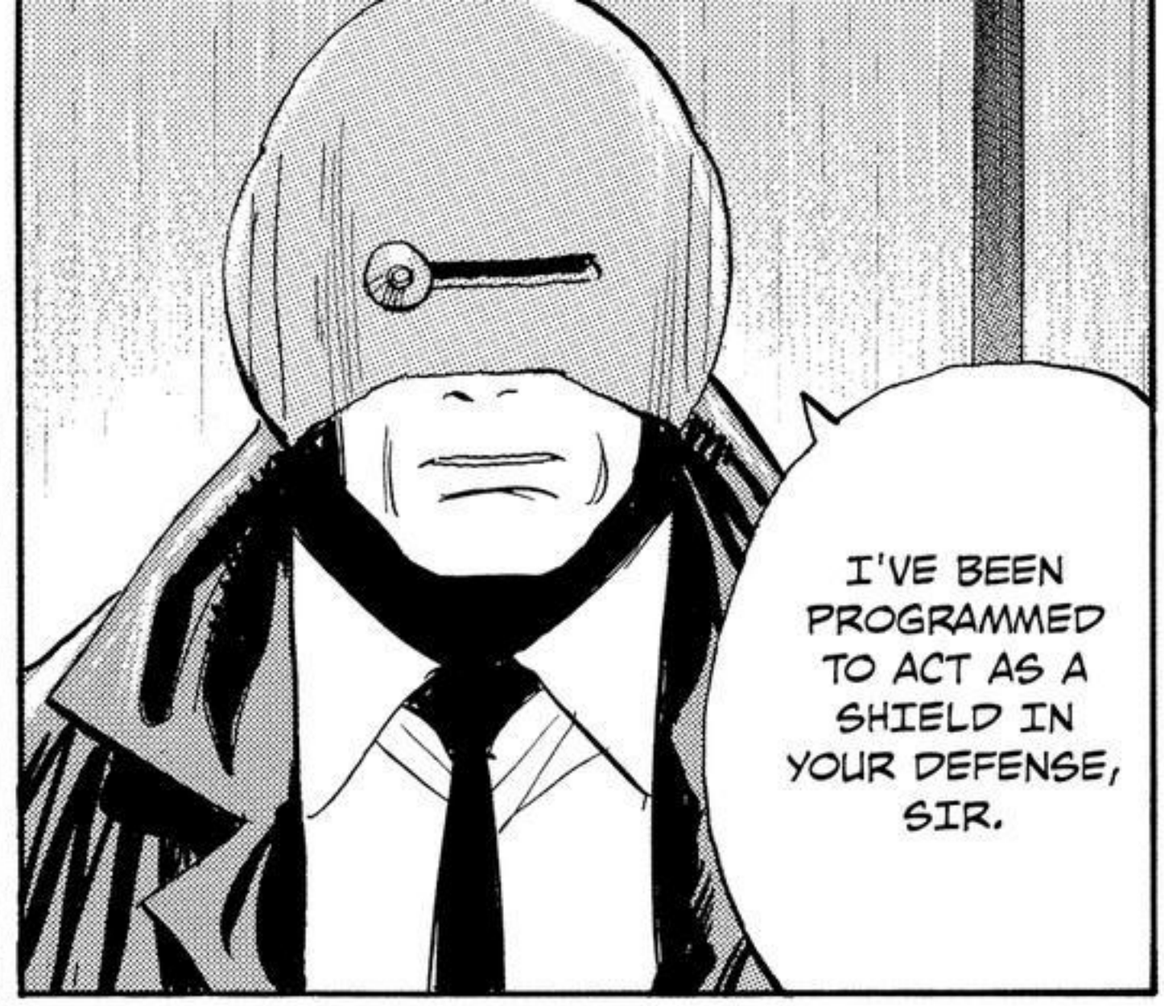


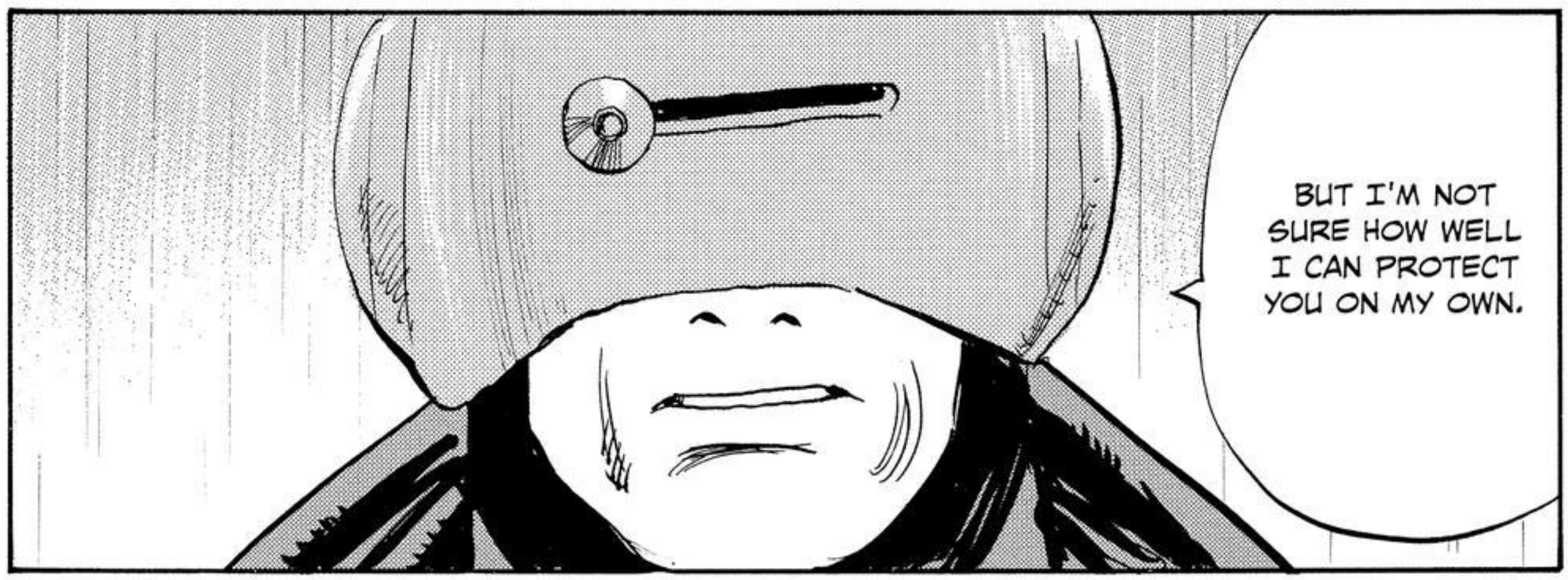


BUT OF COURSE I KNOW ALL ABOUT IT.
AT LEAST IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A SURPRISE ...

CAN YOU AT LEAST KEEP THE PARTY SHORT, SIR?

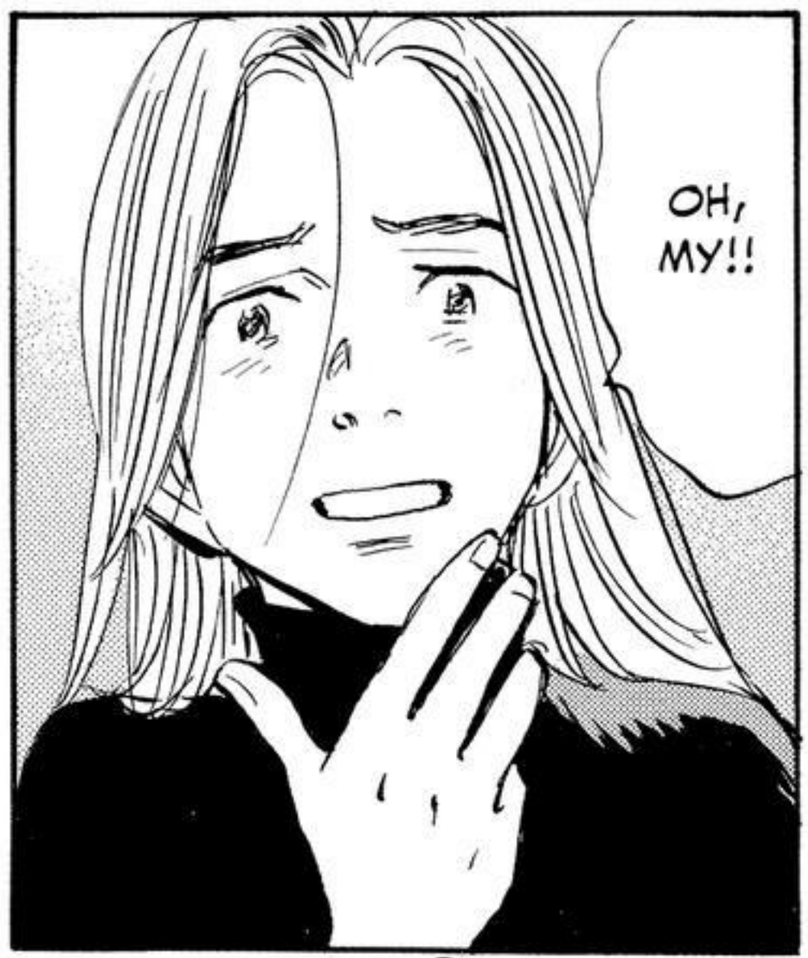


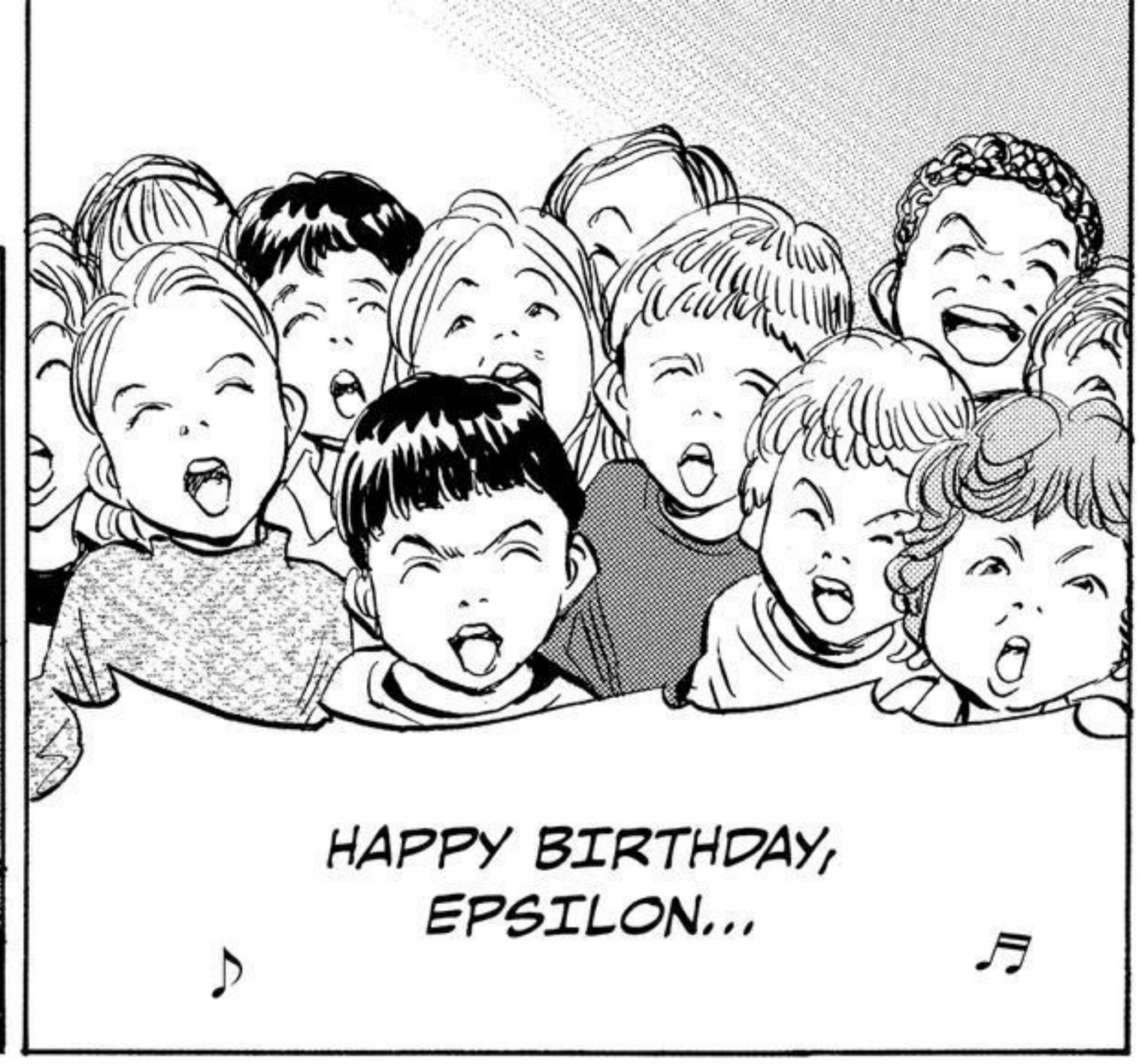

I'VE BEEN PROGRAMMED TO ACT AS A SHIELD IN YOUR DEFENSE, SIR.


BUT I'M NOT SURE HOW WELL I CAN PROTECT YOU ON MY OWN.

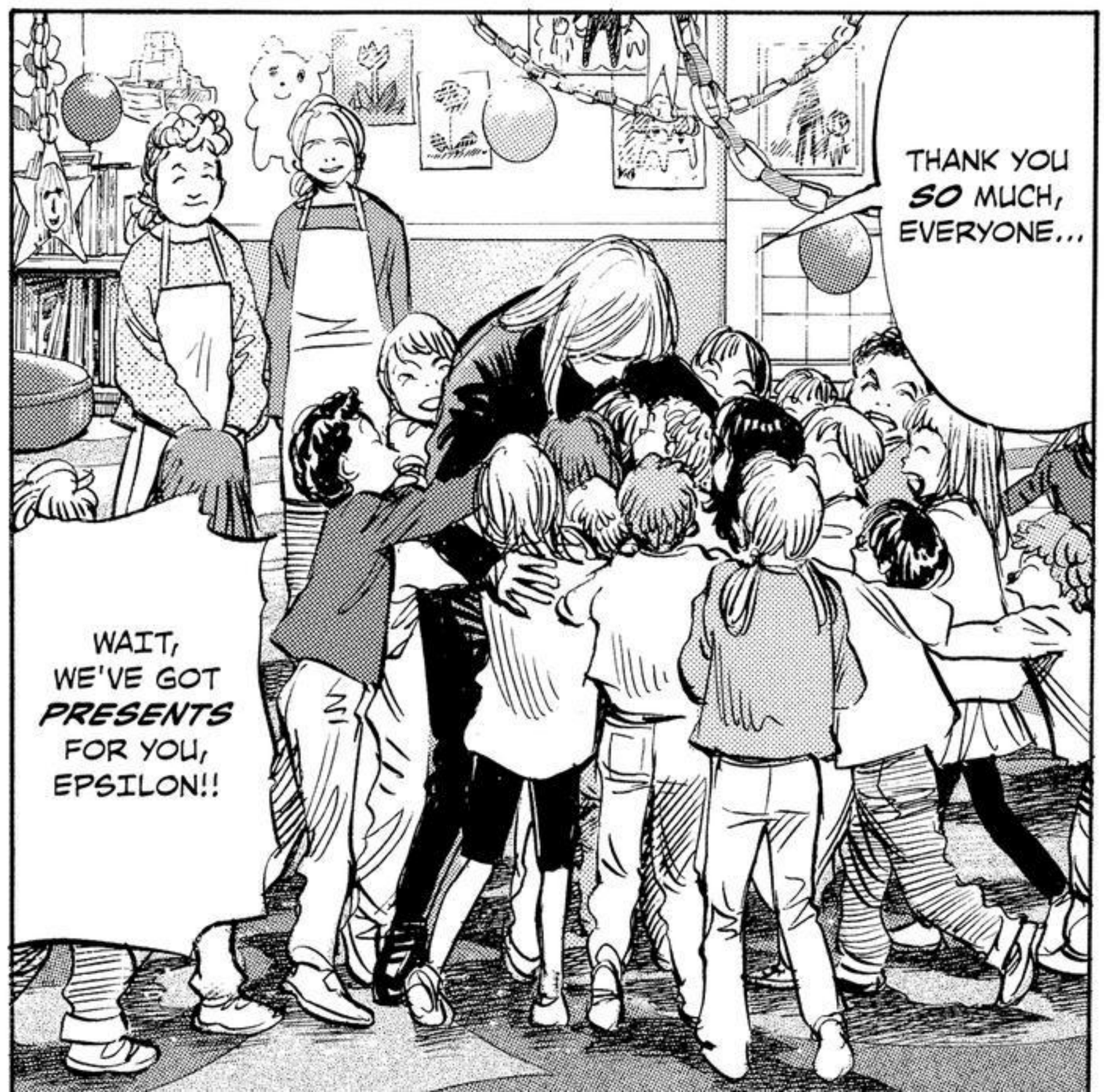
♫ HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ♪ ♪

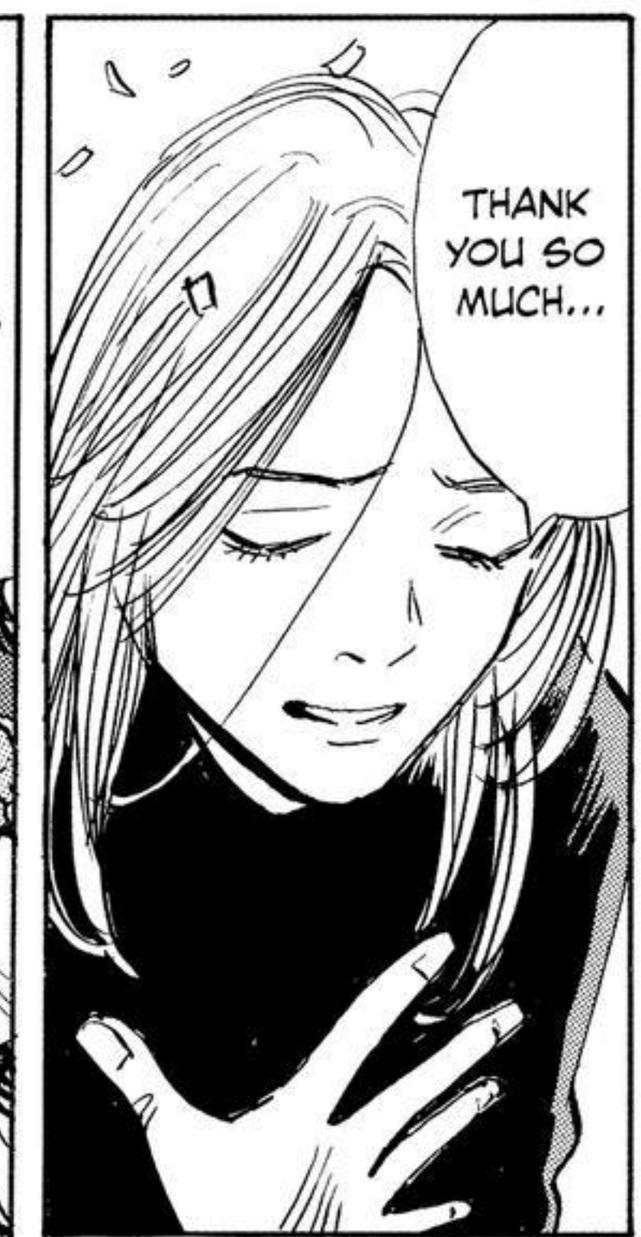
I APPRECIATE THAT. I'LL DO AS YOU SAY.

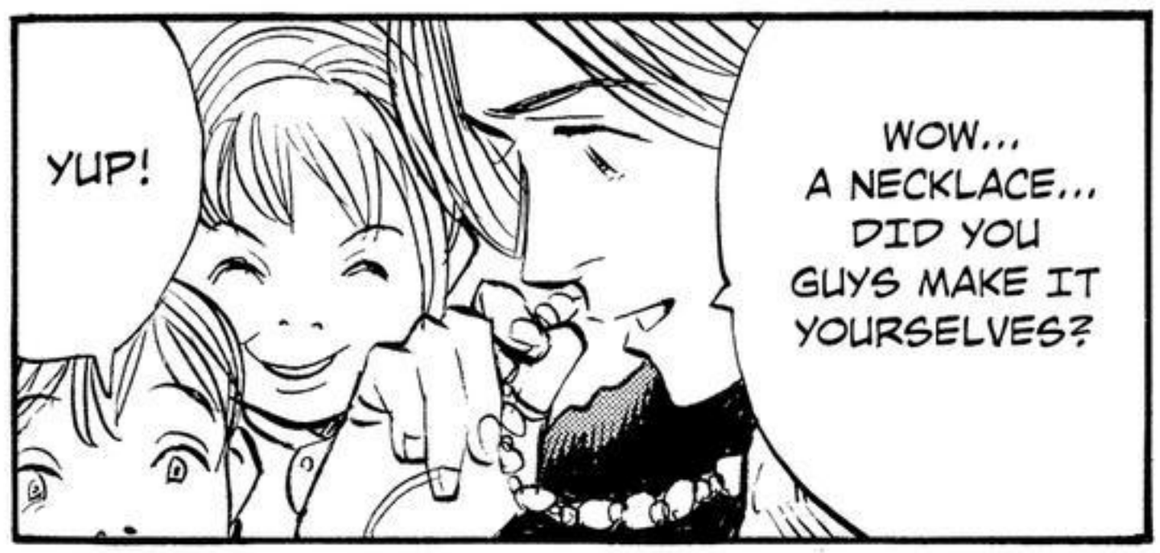

OH, MY!!


HAPPY BIRTHDAY, EPSILON...
♪
♬

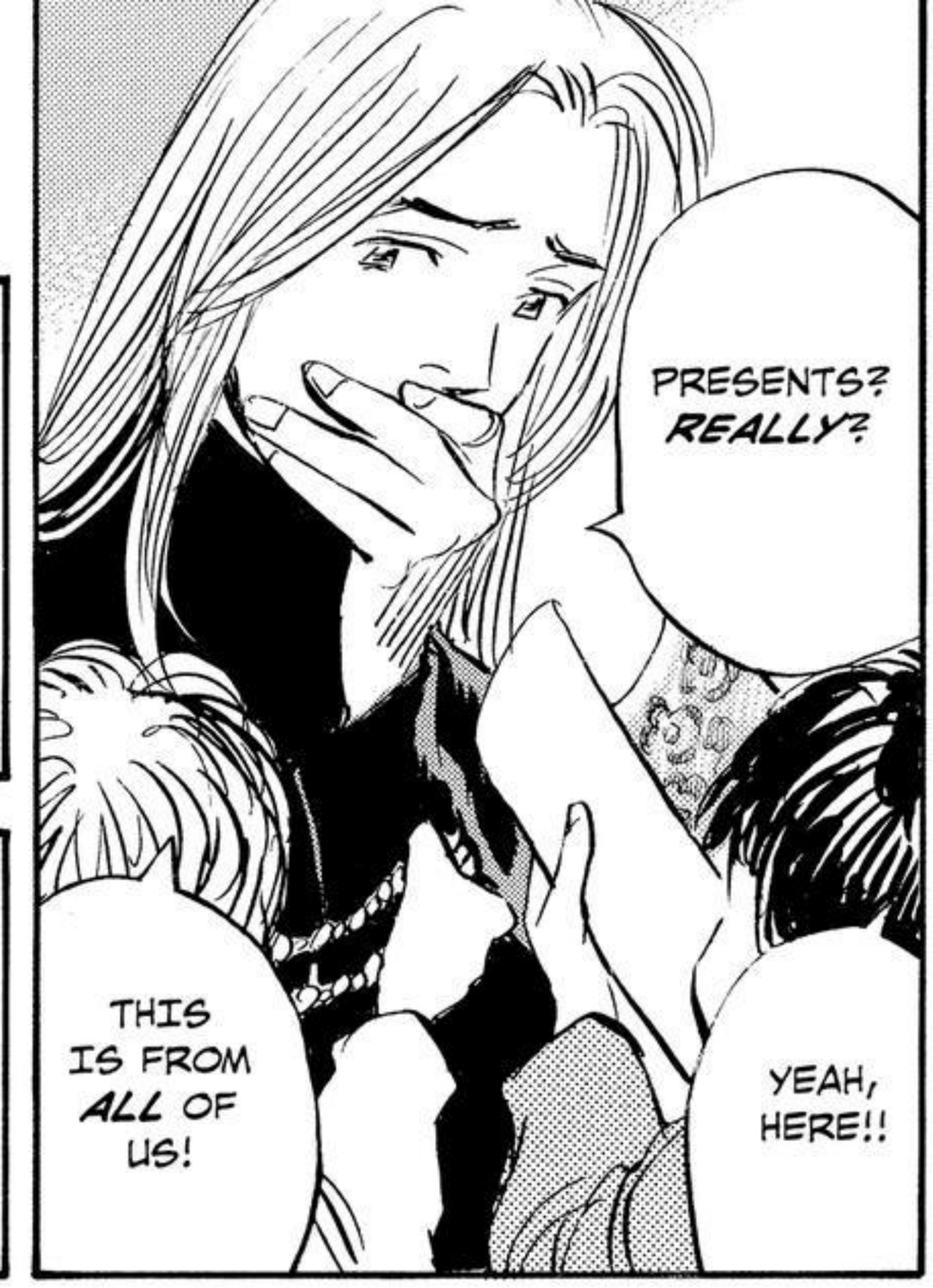
POP
YAAAAAAAY!!
POP
CONGRATULATIONS, EPSILON!!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

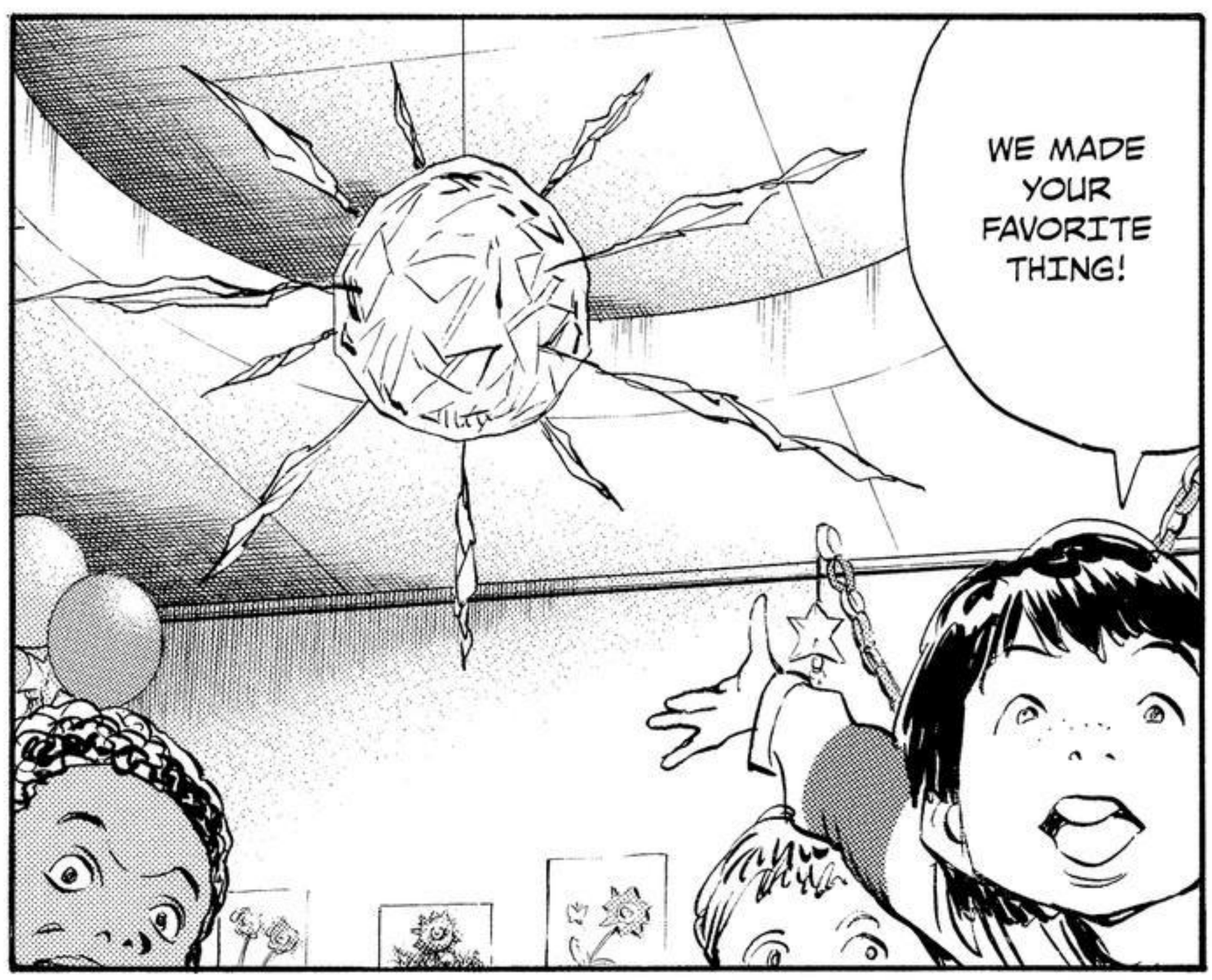

THANK YOU SO MUCH, EVERYONE...
WAIT, WE'VE GOT PRESENTS FOR YOU, EPSILON!!


THANK YOU SO MUCH...

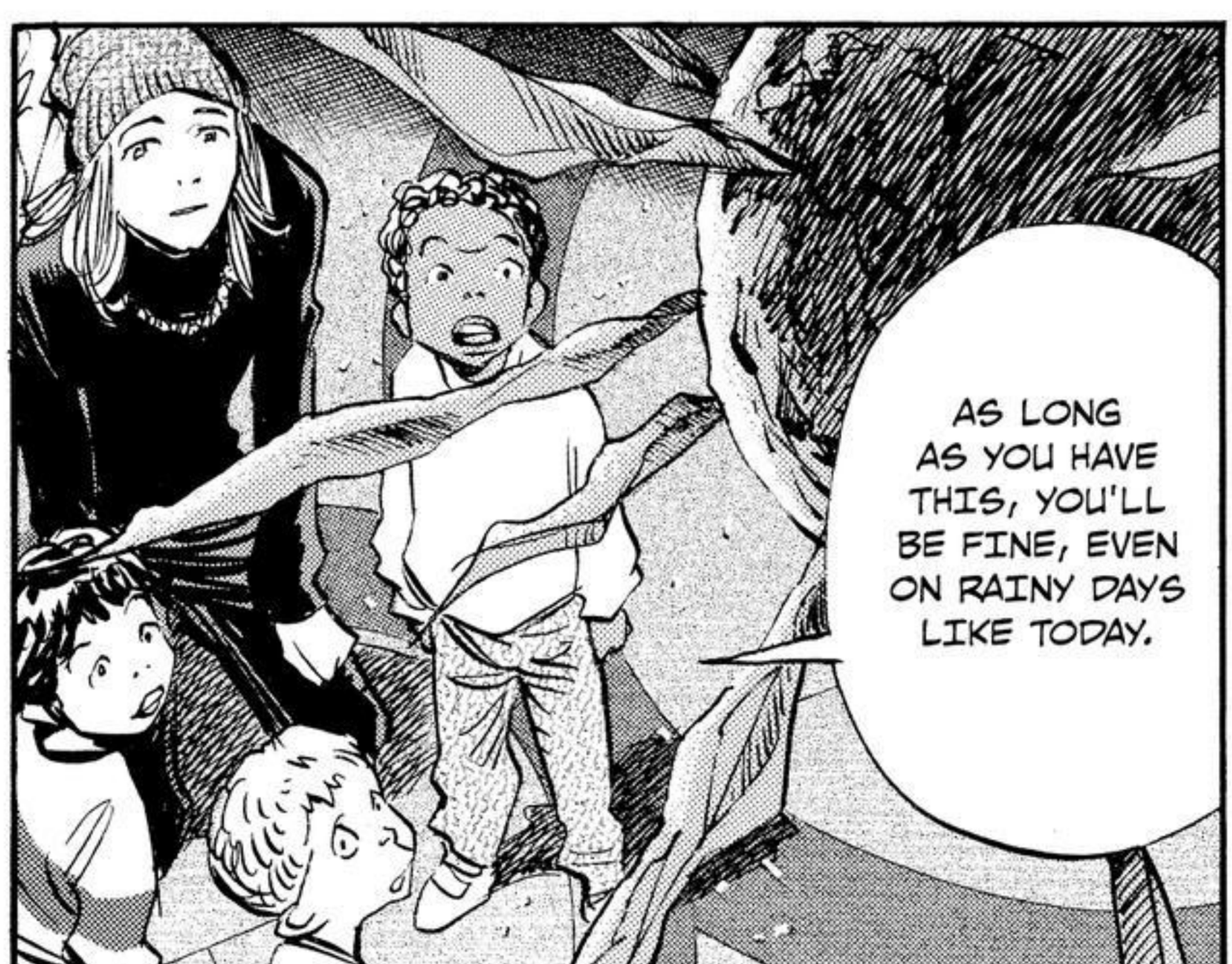

YUP!
WOW... A NECKLACE... DID YOU GUYS MAKE IT YOURSELVES?

THIS HAT'S NICE TOO!

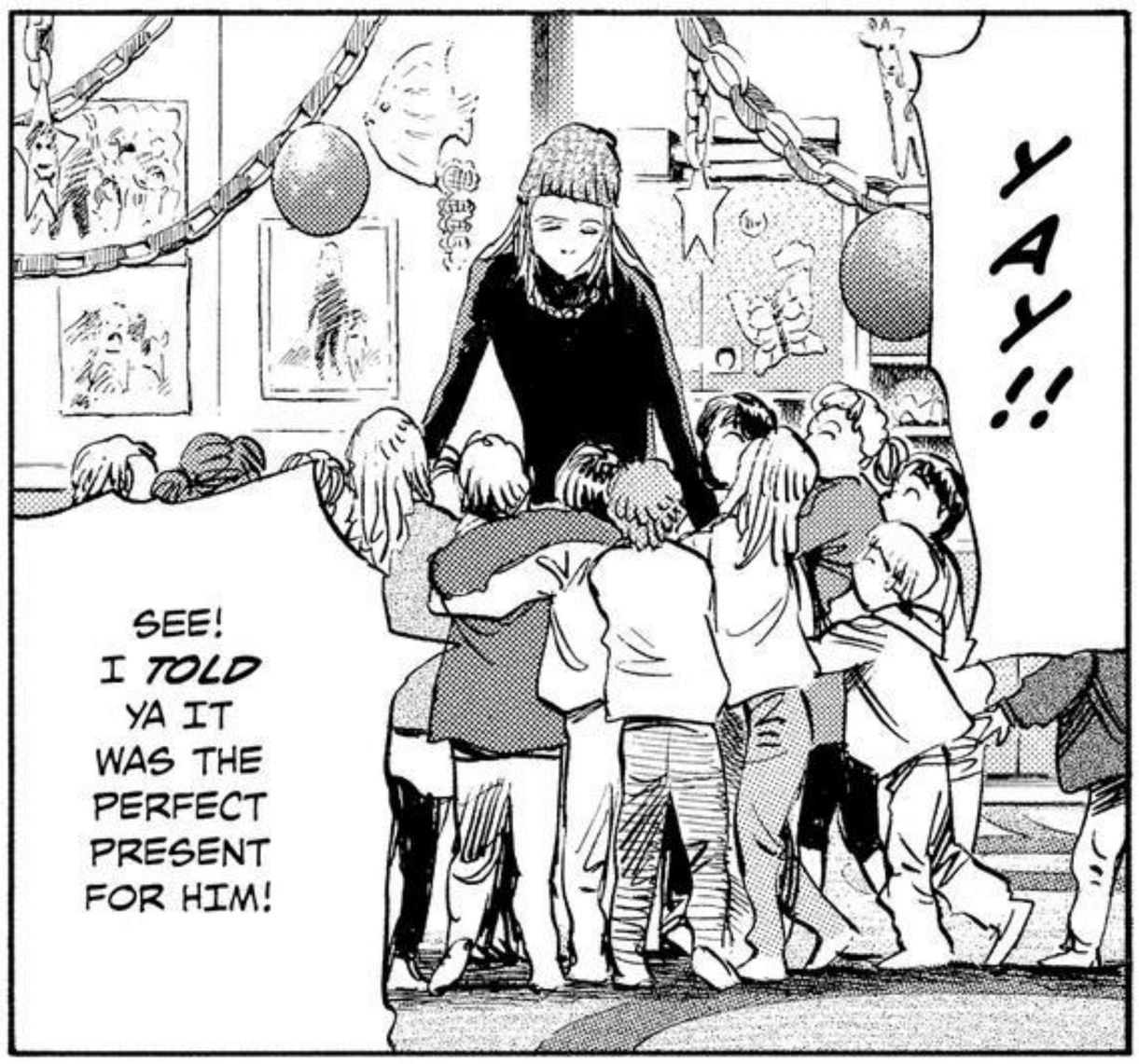

PRESENTS? REALLY?
THIS IS FROM ALL OF US!
YEAH, HERE!!

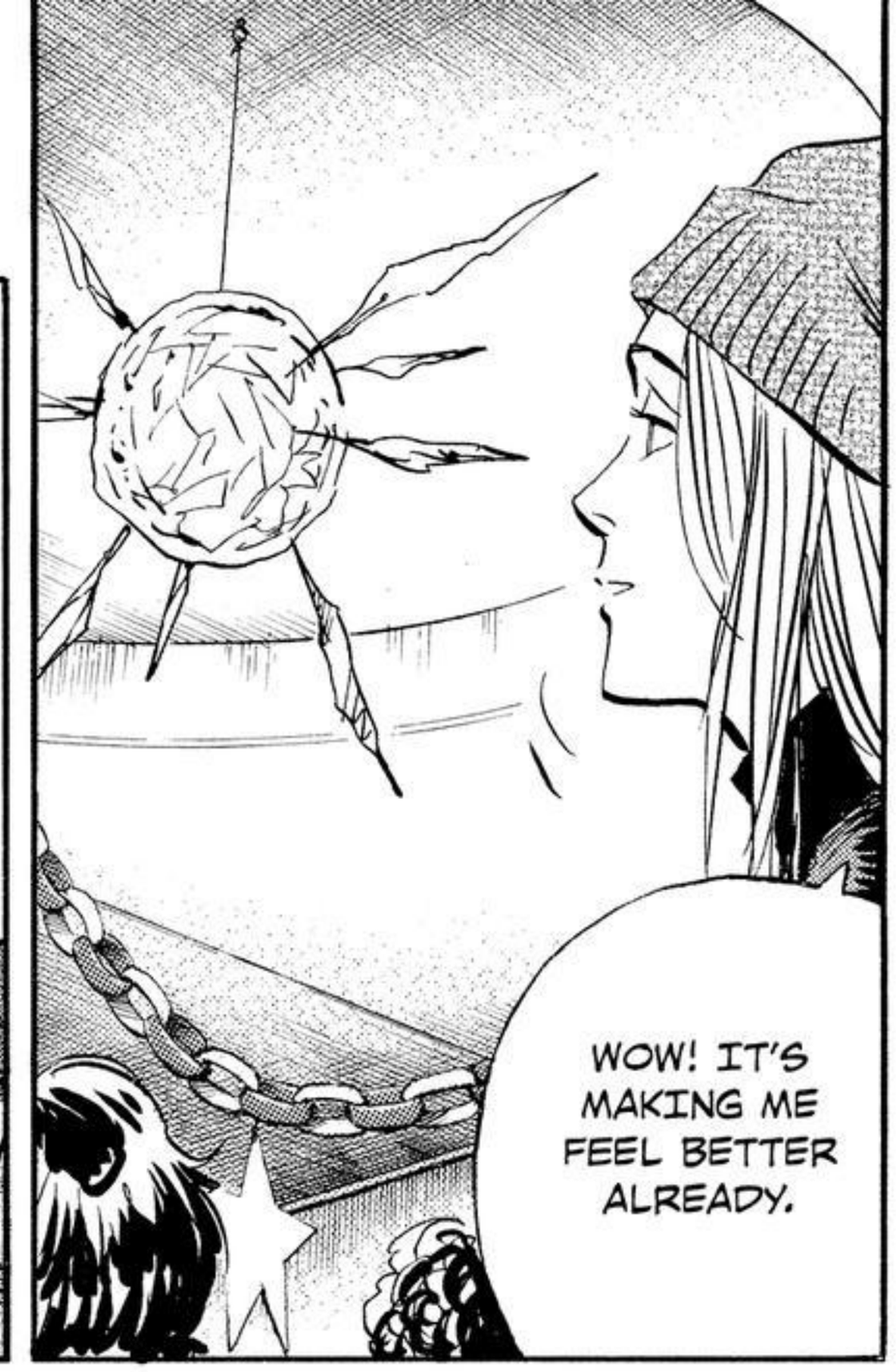

WE MADE YOUR FAVORITE THING!

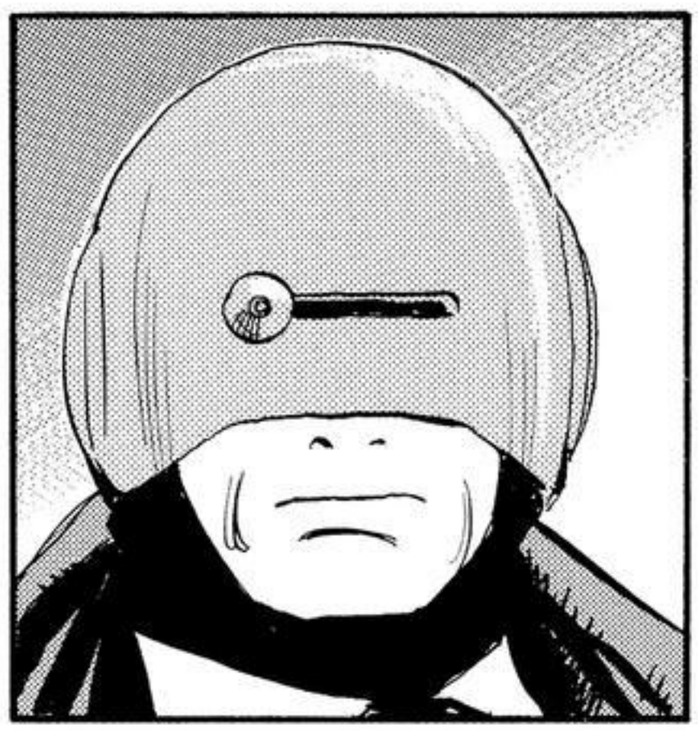
AND LOOK, EPSILON!!


AS LONG AS YOU HAVE THIS, YOU'LL BE FINE, EVEN ON RAINY DAYS LIKE TODAY.

IT'S THE SUN...


ソレソレ!!
SEE! I TOLD YA IT WAS THE PERFECT PRESENT FOR HIM!

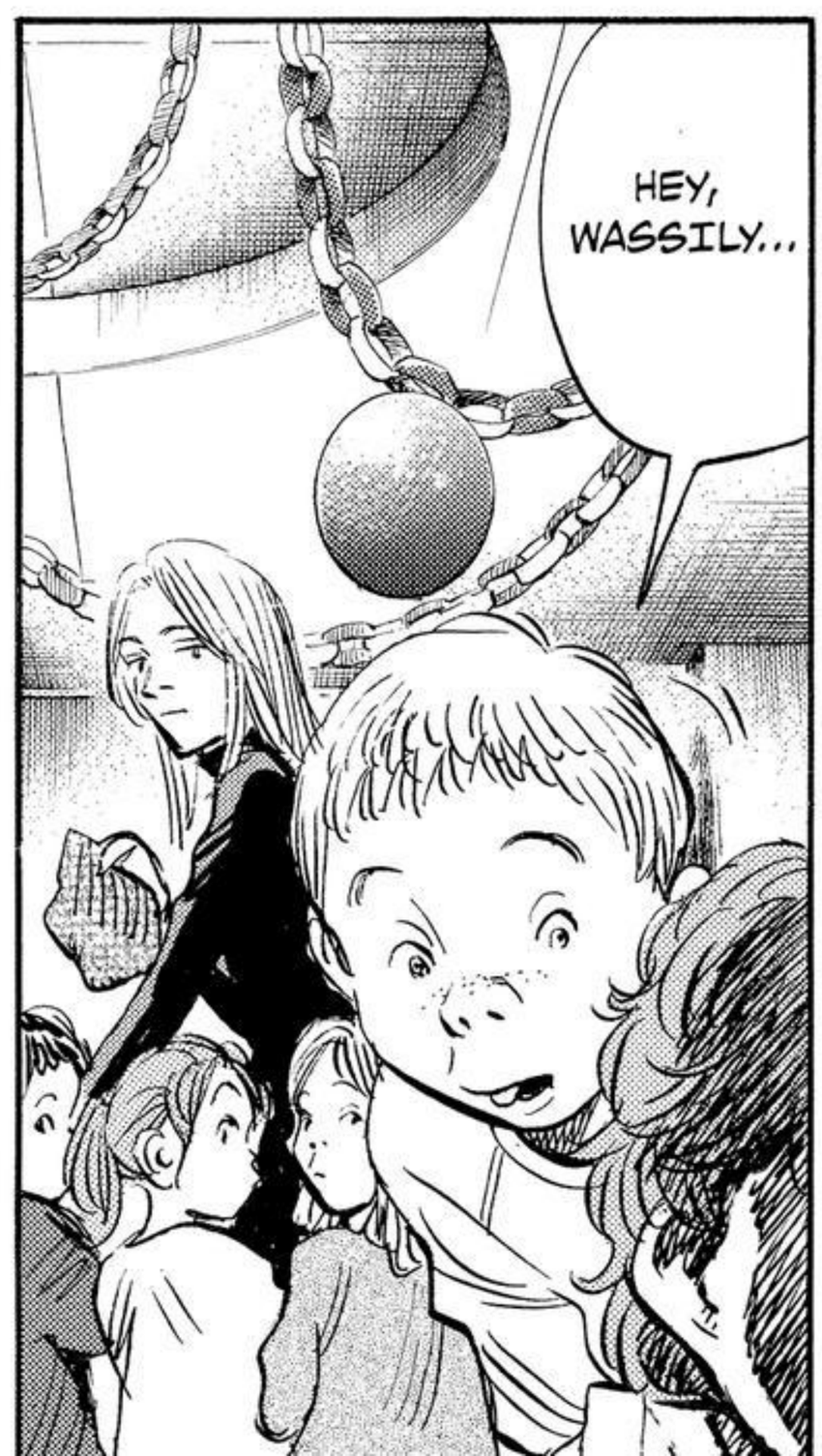

WOW! IT'S MAKING ME FEEL BETTER ALREADY.



FOR ALL THESE POOR WAR ORPHANS, EPSILON'S BECOME THEIR SHINING SUN...

YOU DREW SOMETHING FOR EPSILON, DIDN'T YOU? DON'T BE SHY. SHOW IT TO HIM.
...

IS THAT TRUE, WASSILY?


HEY, WASSILY...

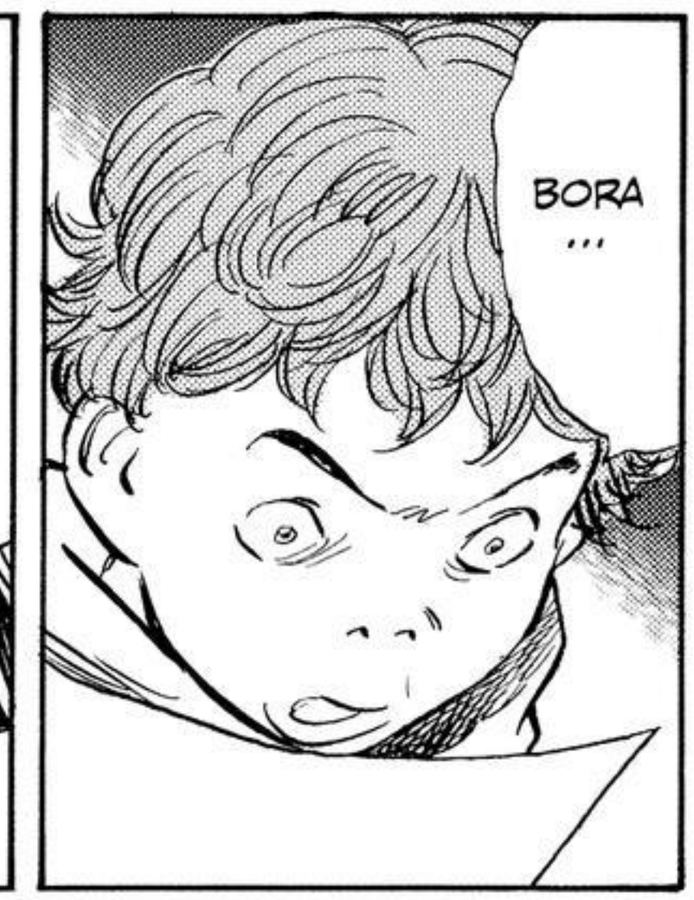
LET'S SEE...

...!!

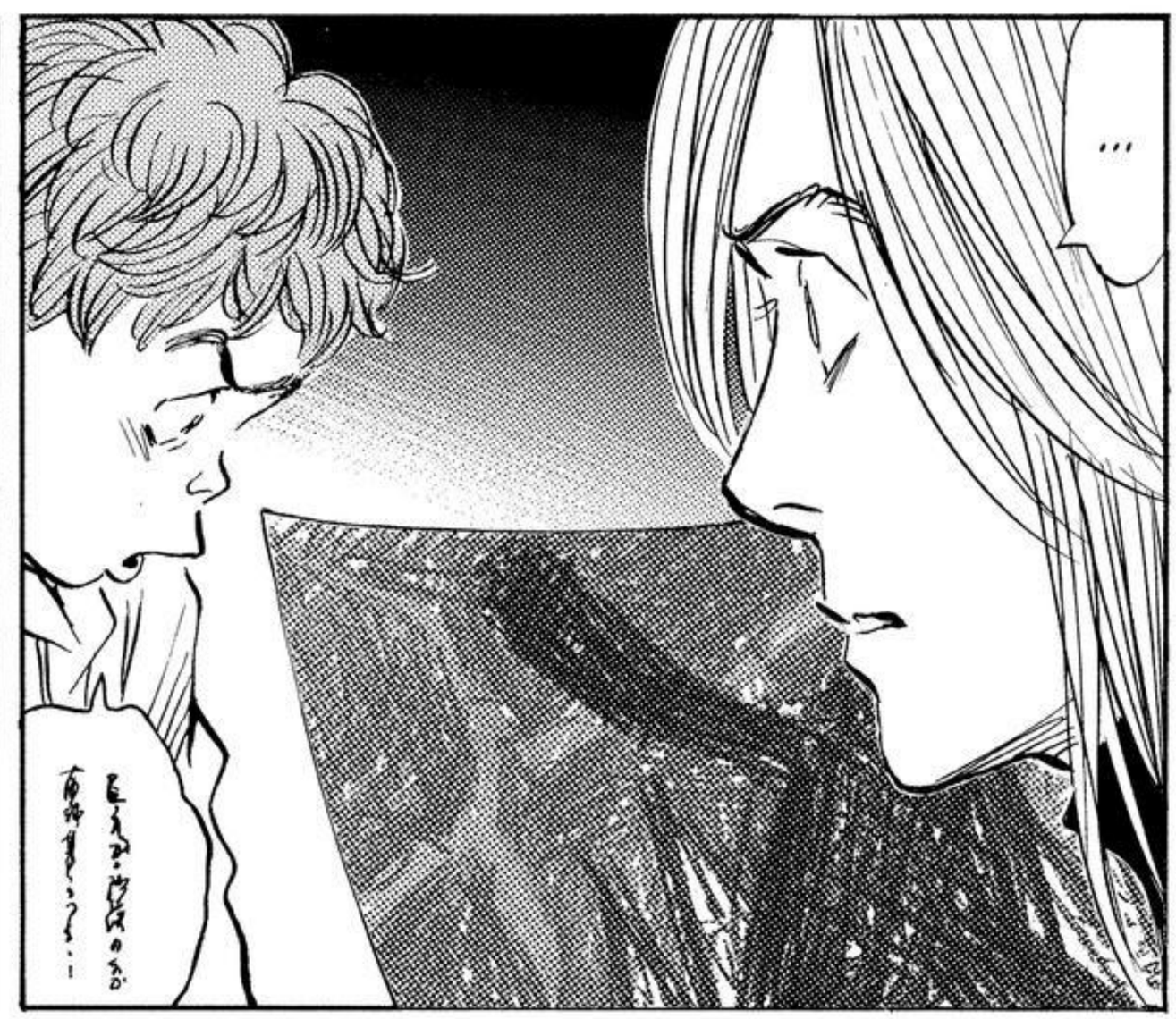
...

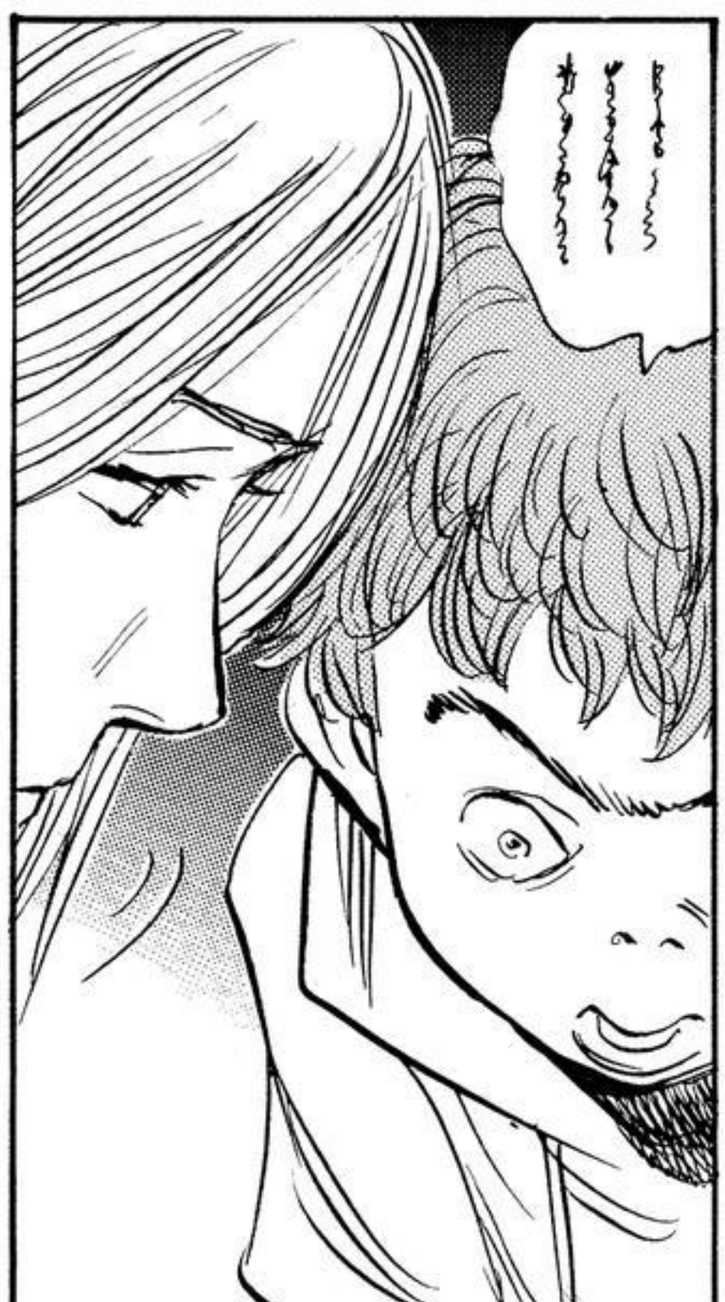
BORA...

THIS IS BORA?!

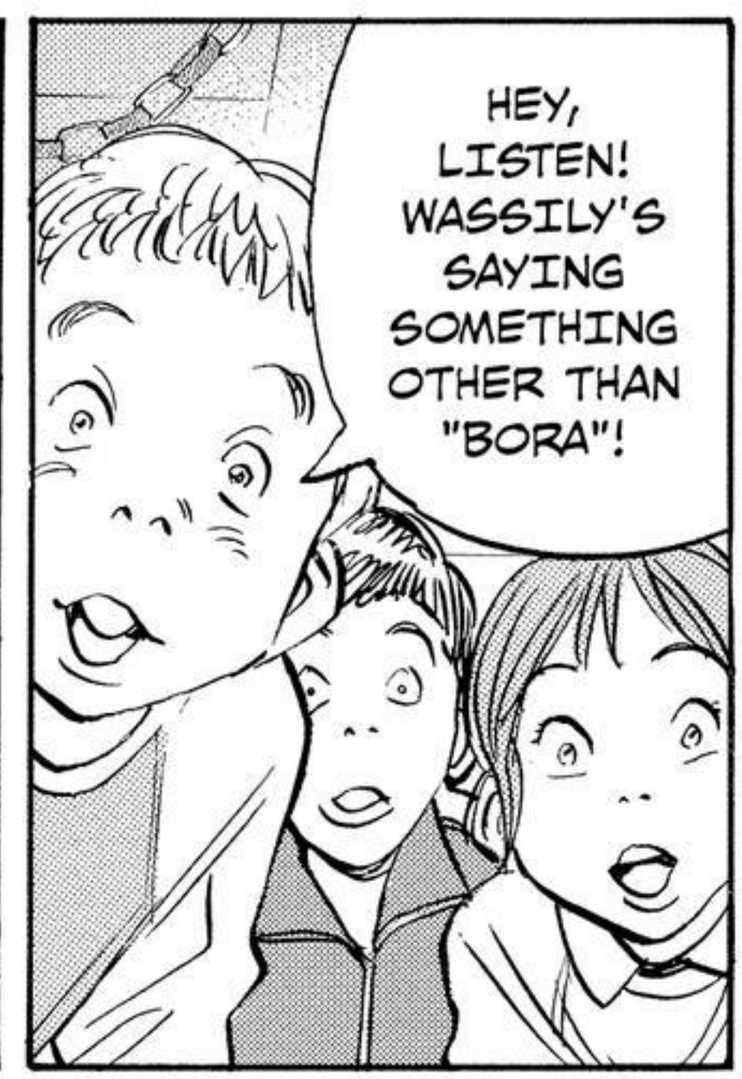

BORA ...

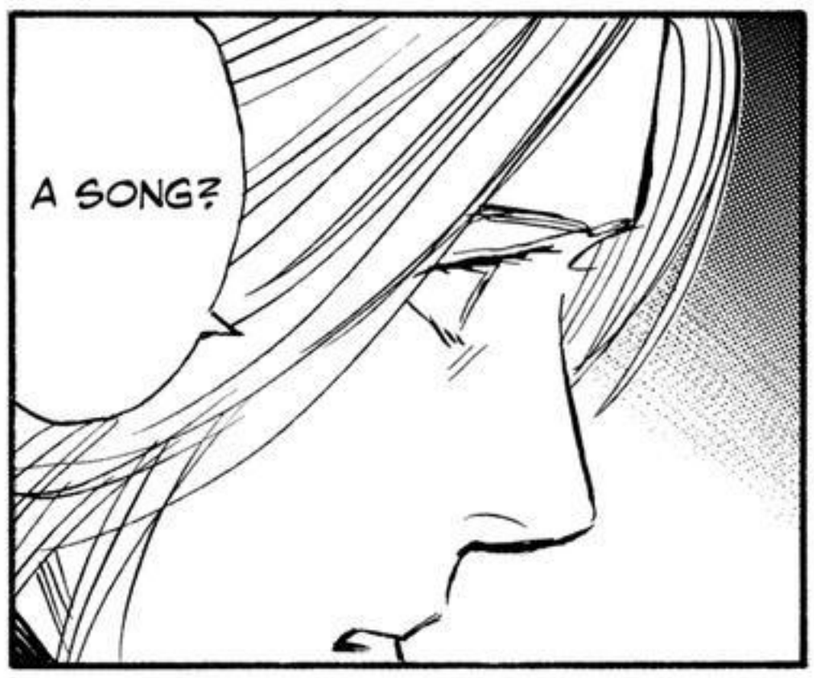
WHAT'D YOU SAY?


...

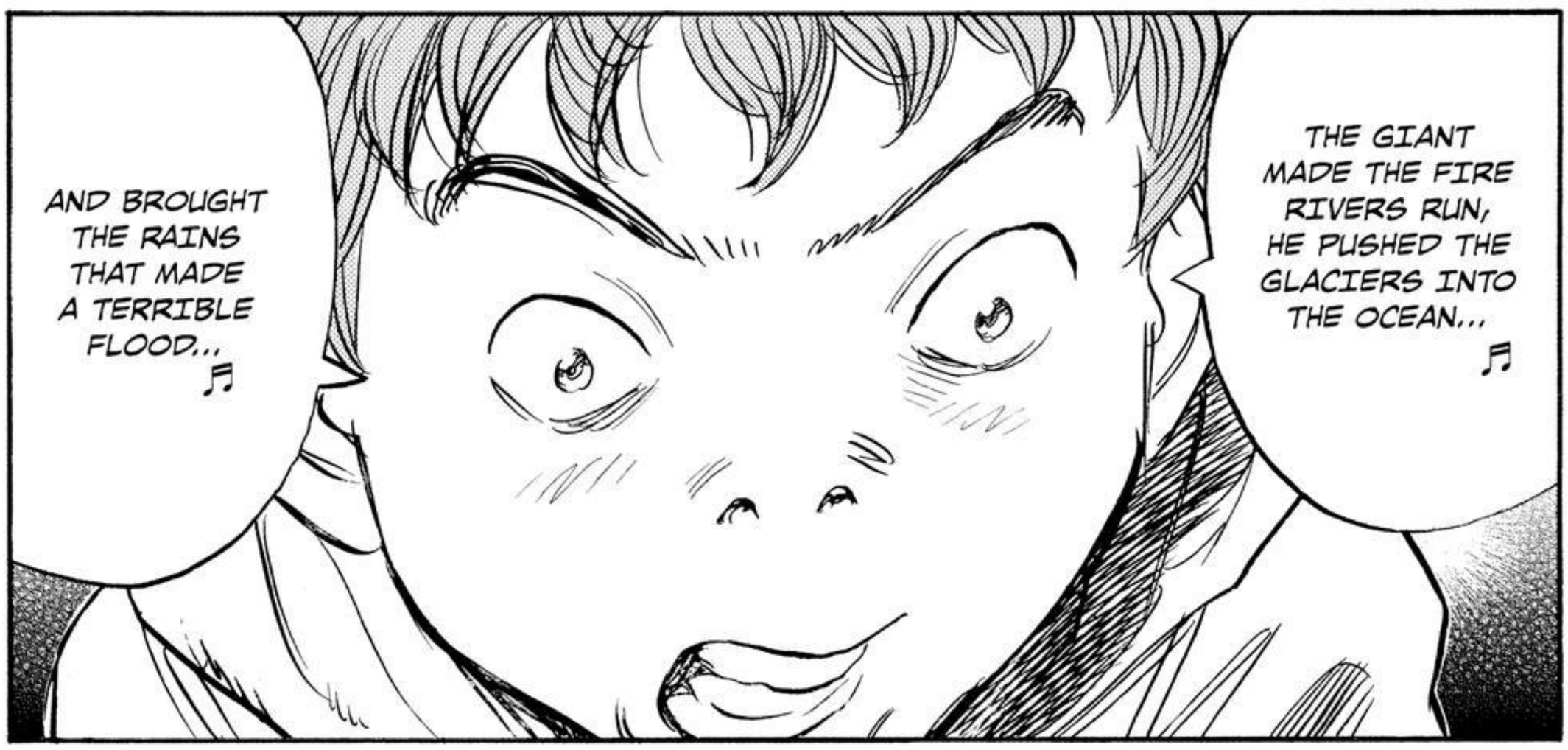


SHH!


HEY, LISTEN! WASSILY'S SAYING SOMETHING OTHER THAN "BORA"!

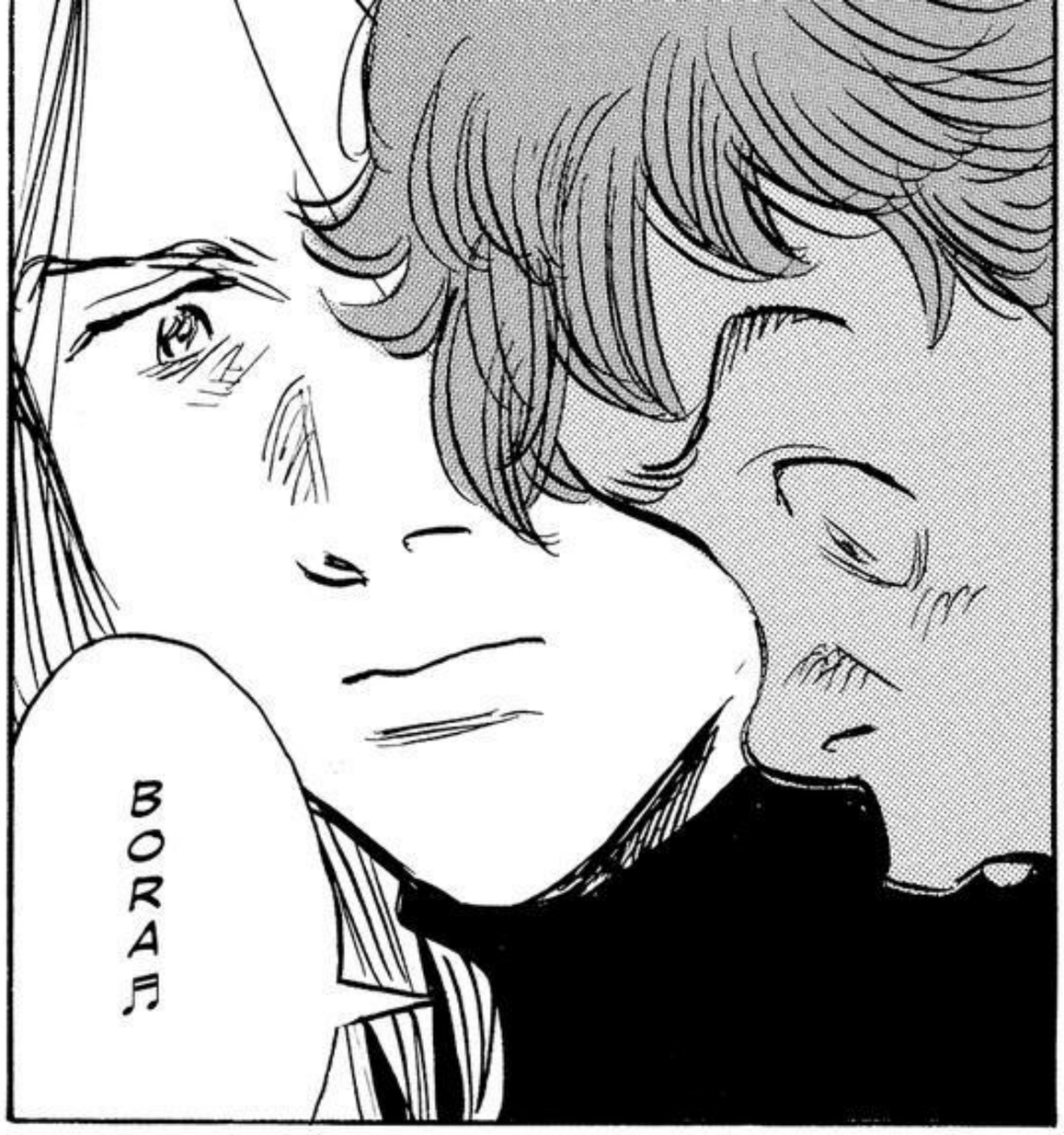

A SONG?

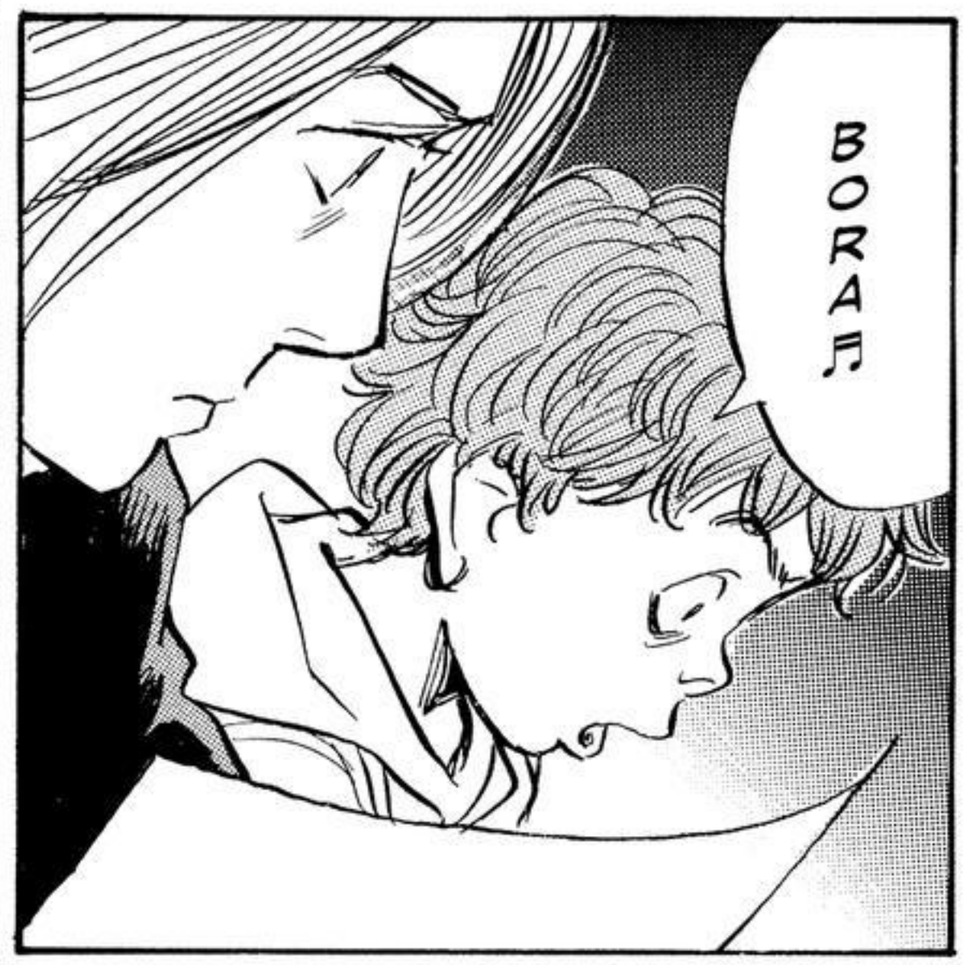
THE GIANT MADE A SOUTH POLE IN THE DESERT ♬


AND BROUGHT THE RAINS THAT MADE A TERRIBLE FLOOD... ♬
THE GIANT MADE THE FIRE RIVERS RUN, HE PUSHED THE GLACIERS INTO THE OCEAN... ♬

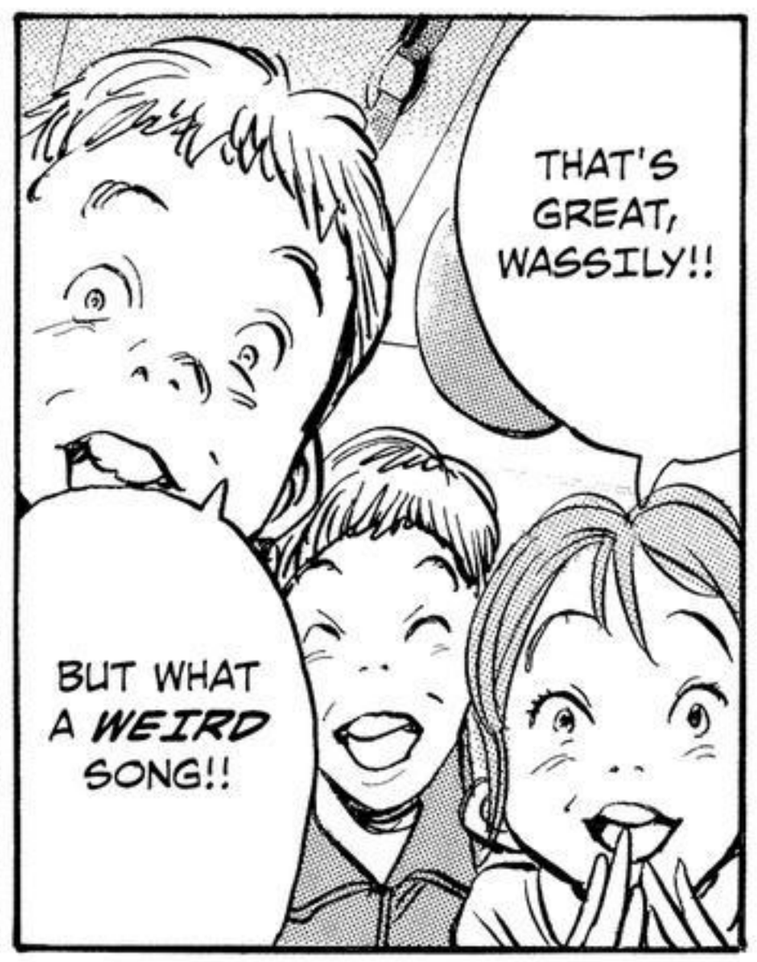
AND HE ATE UP THE WHOLE EARTH... ♬

THEN THE GIANT ATE THE FIRE, GOBBLED UP THE GLACIERS, AND SLURPED UP ALL THE RAIN ♬


BORA♫


BORA♫

WHA HA HA HA HA!!


THAT'S GREAT, WASSILY!!
BUT WHAT A *WEIRD* SONG!!

FSHHH

JUST FIVE MORE MINUTES...

WE'D BETTER GET GOING, SIR.

HOW ARE YOU DOING? OH...WITH THE KIND OF WEATHER YOU'RE HAVING, I NEEDN'T ASK, RIGHT? WE'VE GOT SUNSHINE HERE OVER THE WHOLE UNITED STATES OF THRACIA.

WELL, WELL, IF IT ISN'T ***EPSILON.***

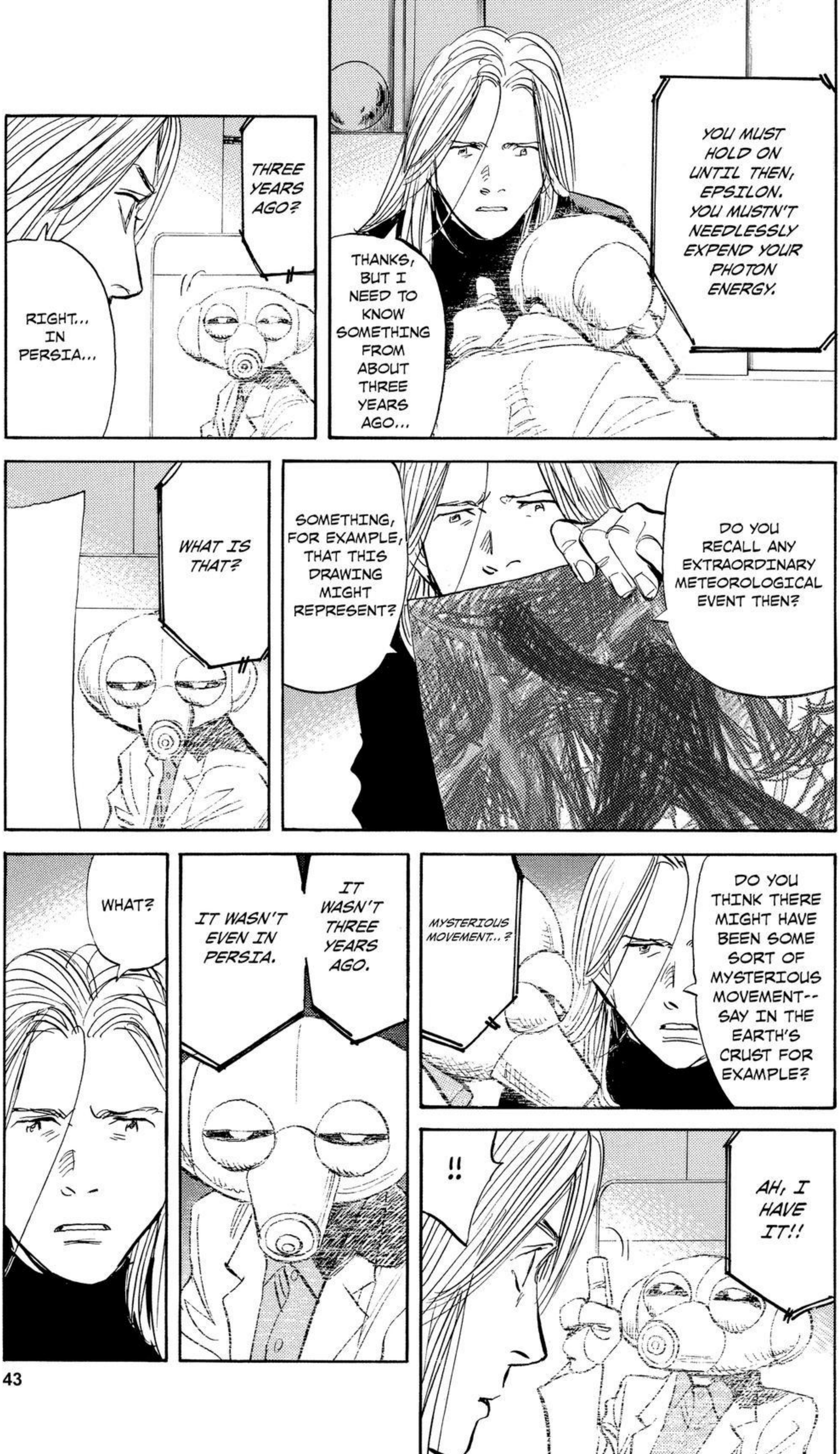
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, ARNOLD.

...WILL CLEAR UP TOMORROW BEFORE DAWN.

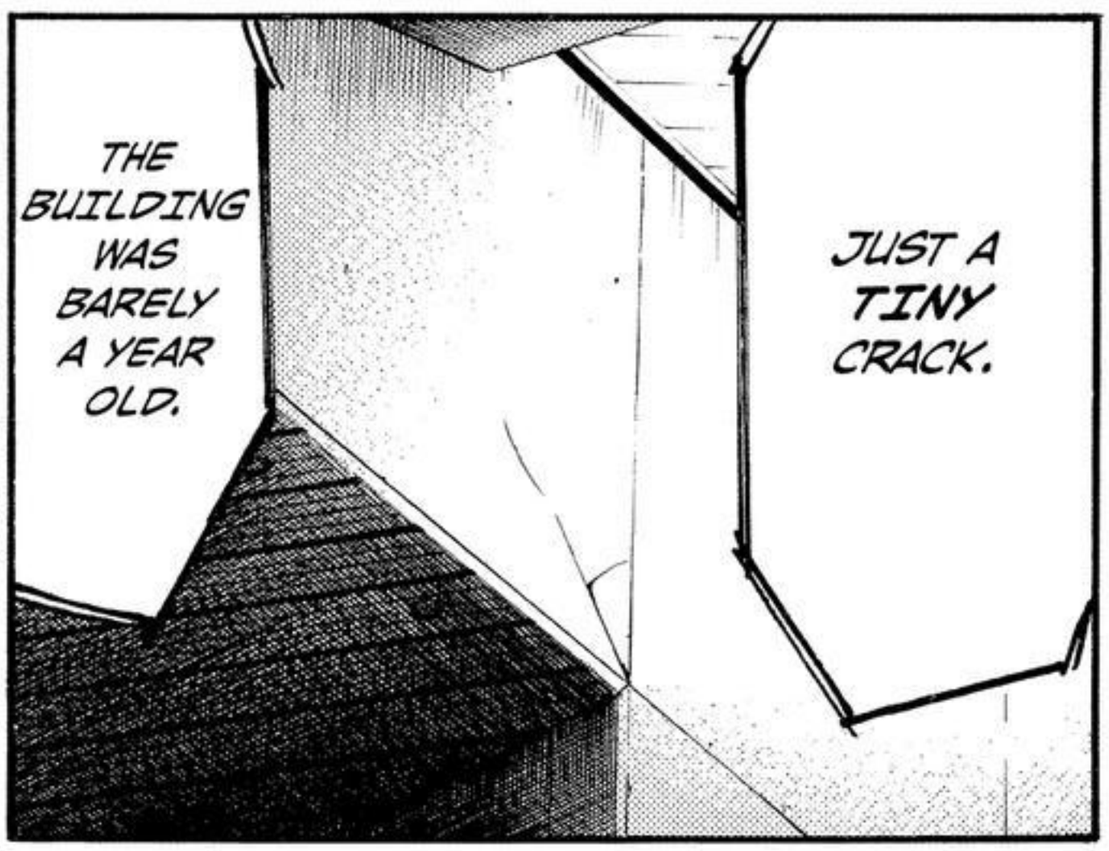
LET ARNOLD, THE WEATHER FORECASTING ROBOT, TELL YOU WHAT THE WEATHER'S GOING TO BE. THE RAIN YOU'RE EXPERIENCING...

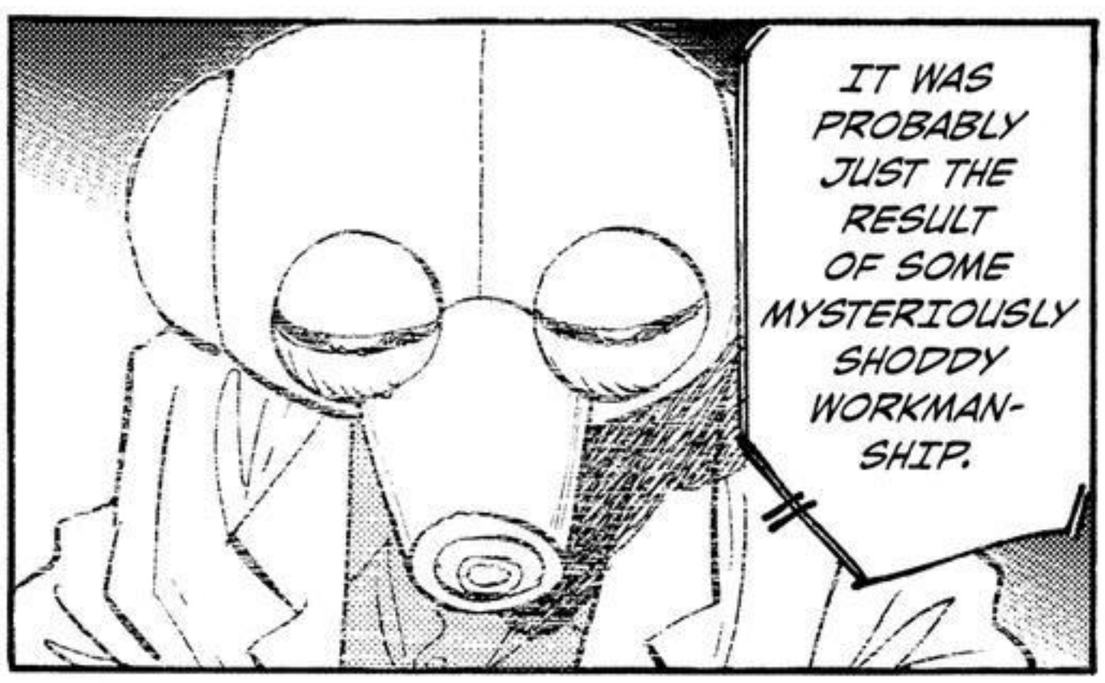
OKAY!! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING YOU'D WANT TO ASK ME.

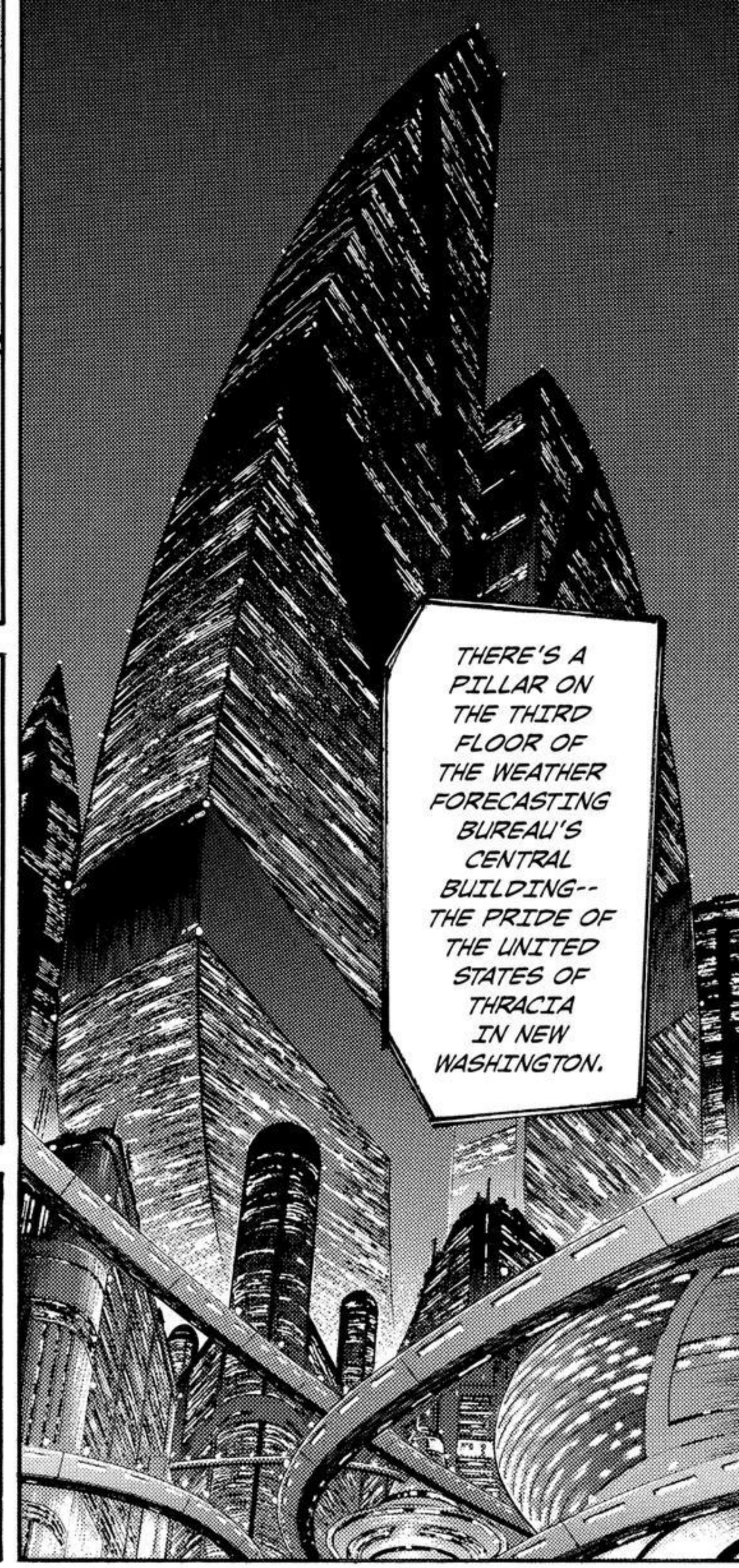
I NEED TO ASK YOU ABOUT SOMETHING, ARNOLD...

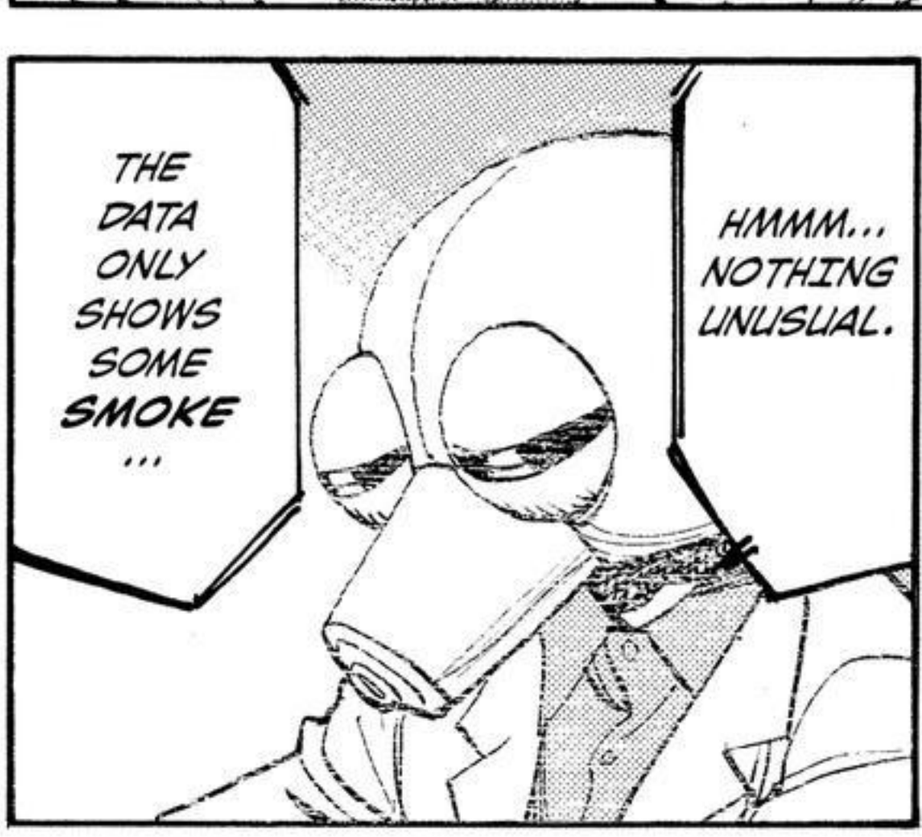

THREE YEARS AGO?
RIGHT... IN PERSIA...
THANKS, BUT I NEED TO KNOW SOMETHING FROM ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO...
YOU MUST HOLD ON UNTIL THEN, EPSILON. YOU MUSTN'T NEEDLESSLY EXPEND YOUR PHOTON ENERGY.
WHAT IS THAT?
SOMETHING, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THIS DRAWING MIGHT REPRESENT?
DO YOU RECALL ANY EXTRAORDINARY METEOROLOGICAL EVENT THEN?
WHAT?
IT WASN'T EVEN IN PERSIA.
IT WASN'T THREE YEARS AGO.
MYSTERIOUS MOVEMENT...?
DO YOU THINK THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOME SORT OF MYSTERIOUS MOVEMENT-- SAY IN THE EARTH'S CRUST FOR EXAMPLE?
!!
AH, I HAVE IT!!

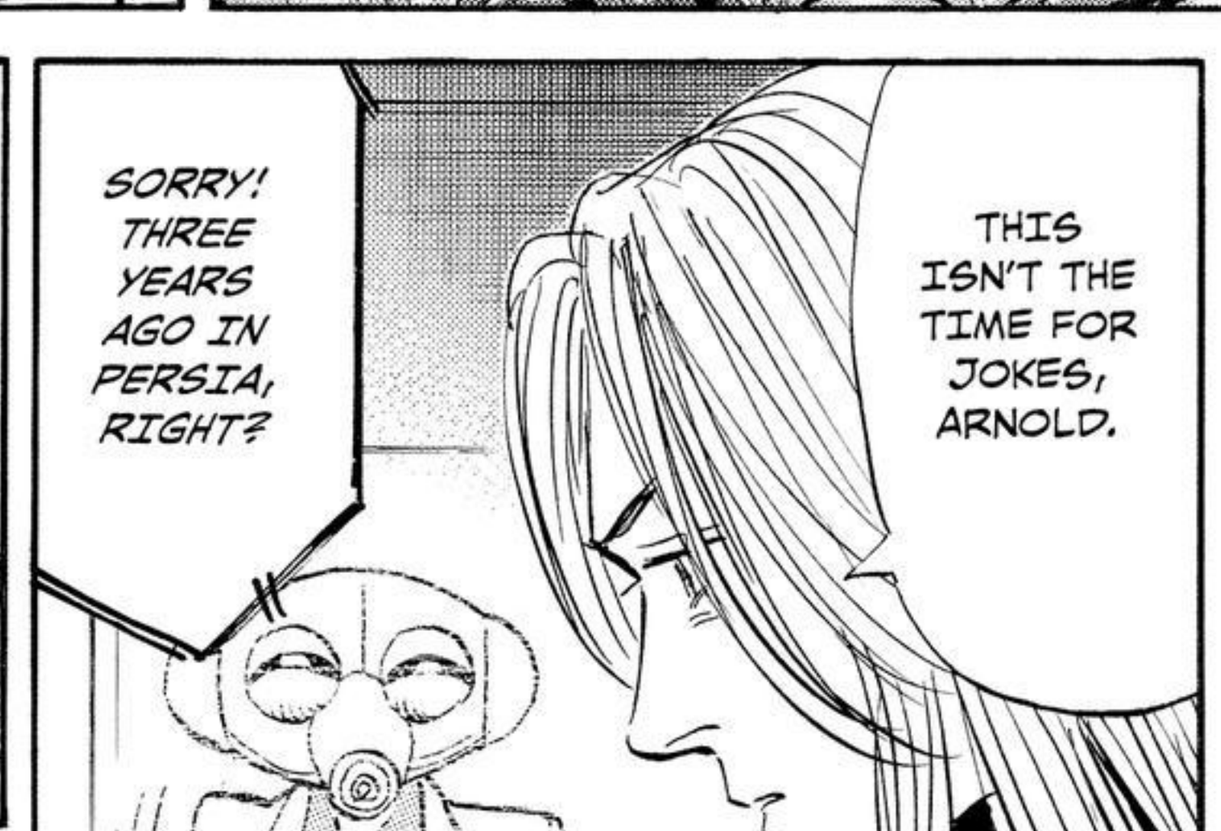
IT DEVELOPED A HAIRLINE CRACK.

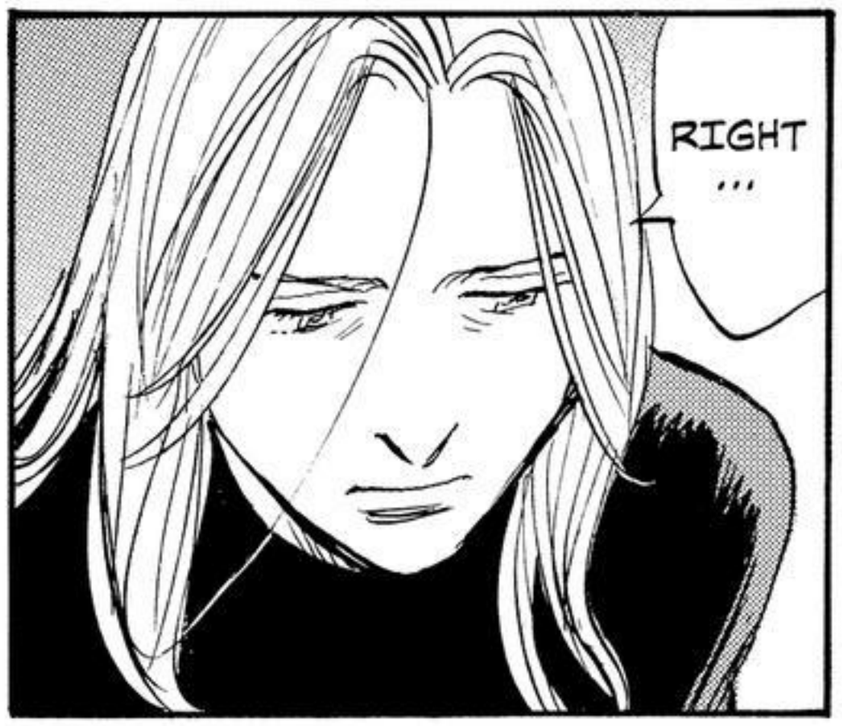

THE BUILDING WAS BARELY A YEAR OLD.
JUST A TINY CRACK.

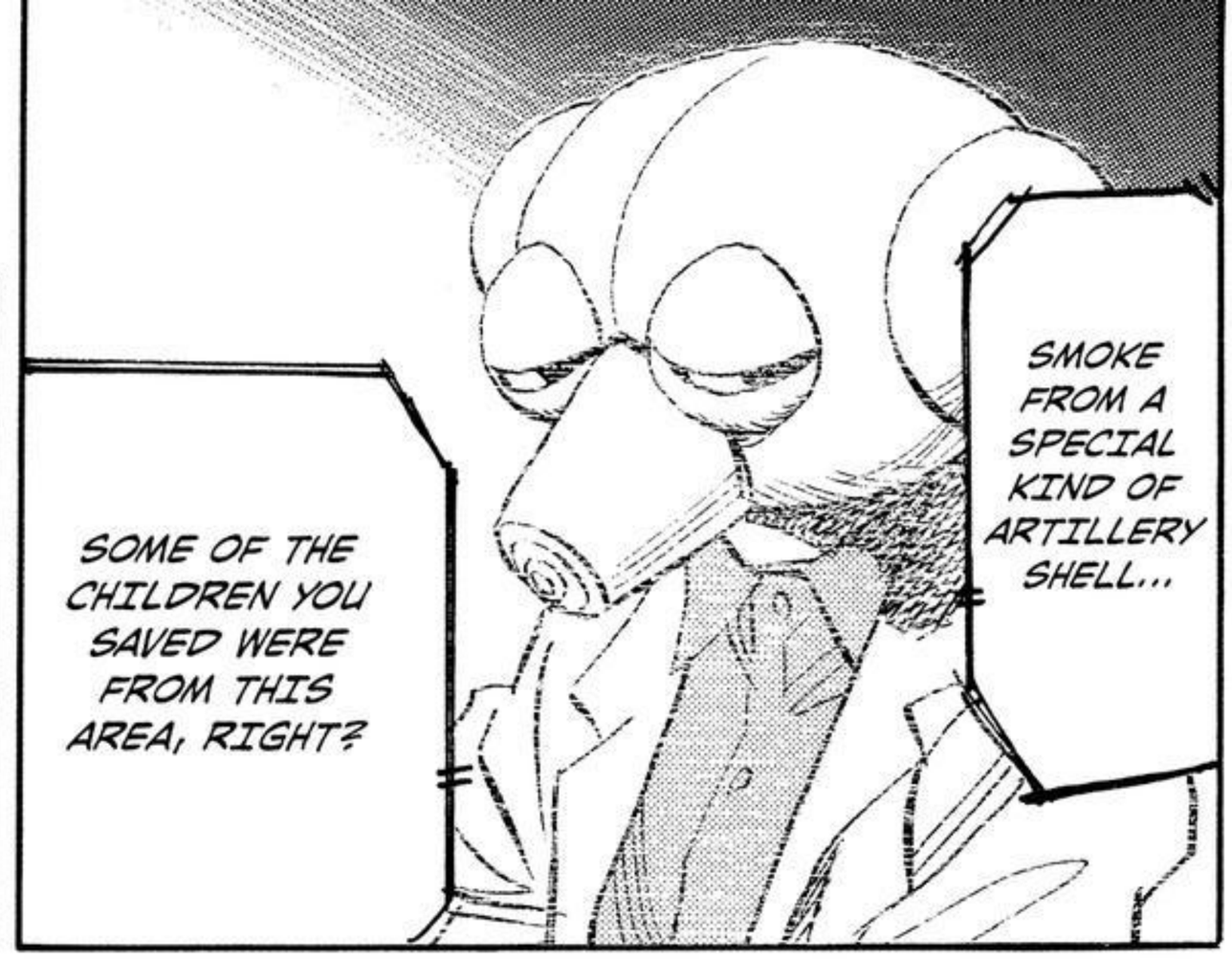

IT WAS PROBABLY JUST THE RESULT OF SOME MYSTERIOUSLY SHODDY WORKMANSHIP.


THERE'S A PILLAR ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE WEATHER FORECASTING BUREAU'S CENTRAL BUILDING-- THE PRIDE OF THE UNITED STATES OF THRACIA IN NEW WASHINGTON.


THE DATA ONLY SHOWS SOME SMOKE ...
HMMM... NOTHING UNUSUAL.

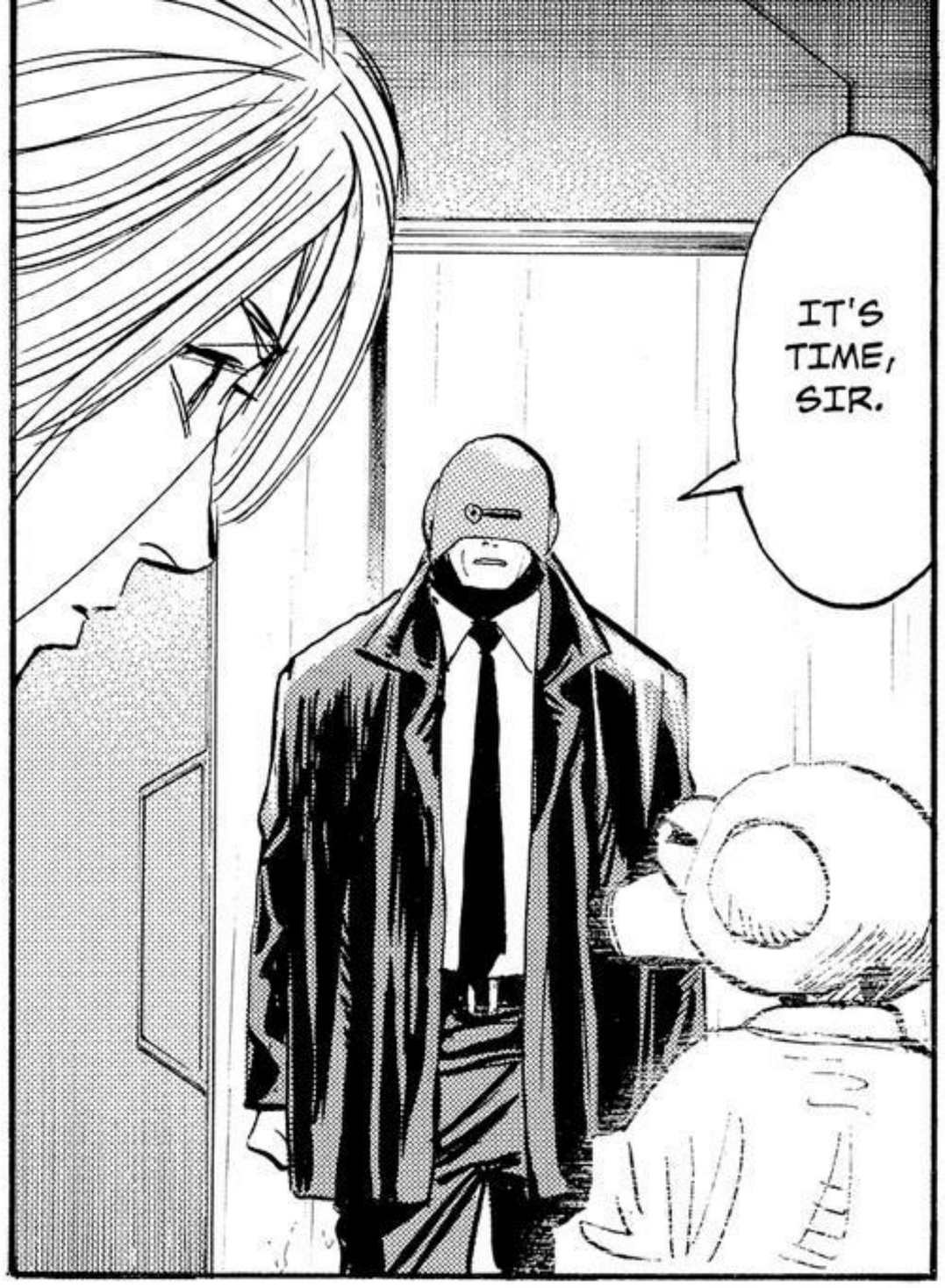

SORRY! THREE YEARS AGO IN PERSIA, RIGHT?
THIS ISN'T THE TIME FOR JOKES, ARNOLD.





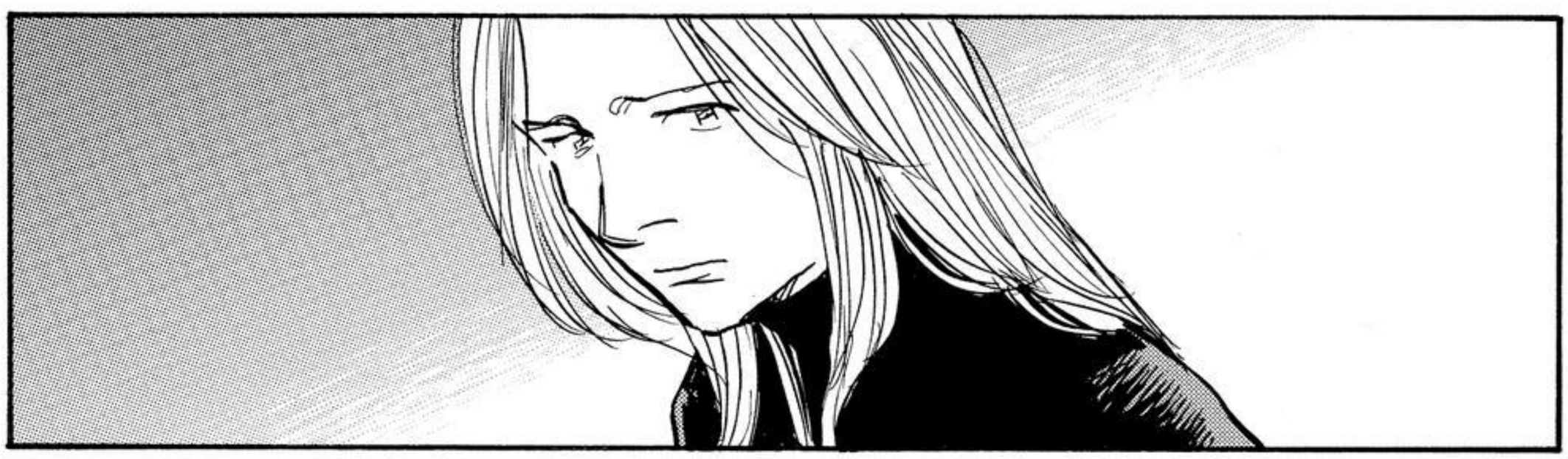
IT APPEARS TO BE SOMETHING VERY LARGE...

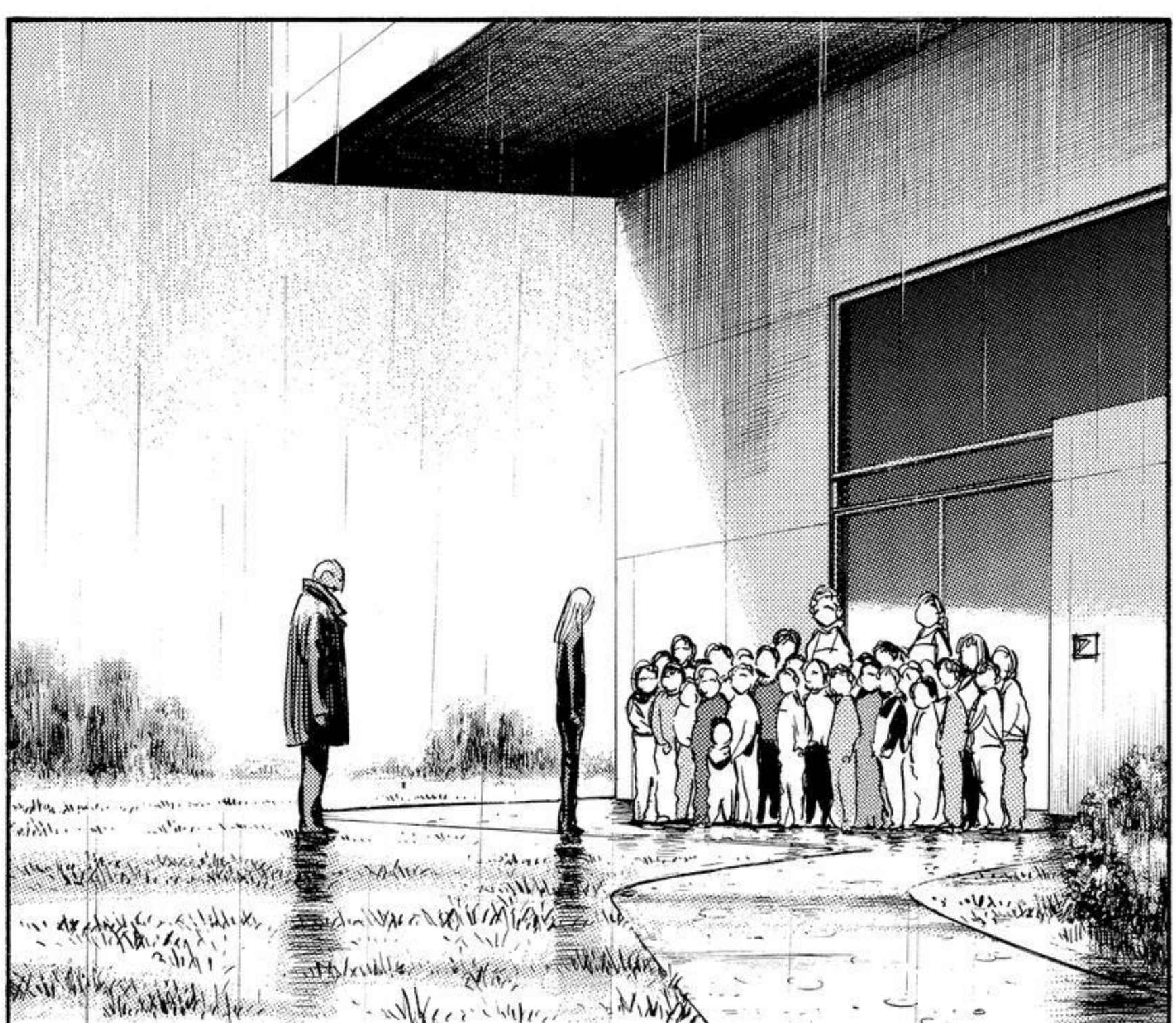
WAIT... WHAT'S THAT UNDER THE SMOKE ...?

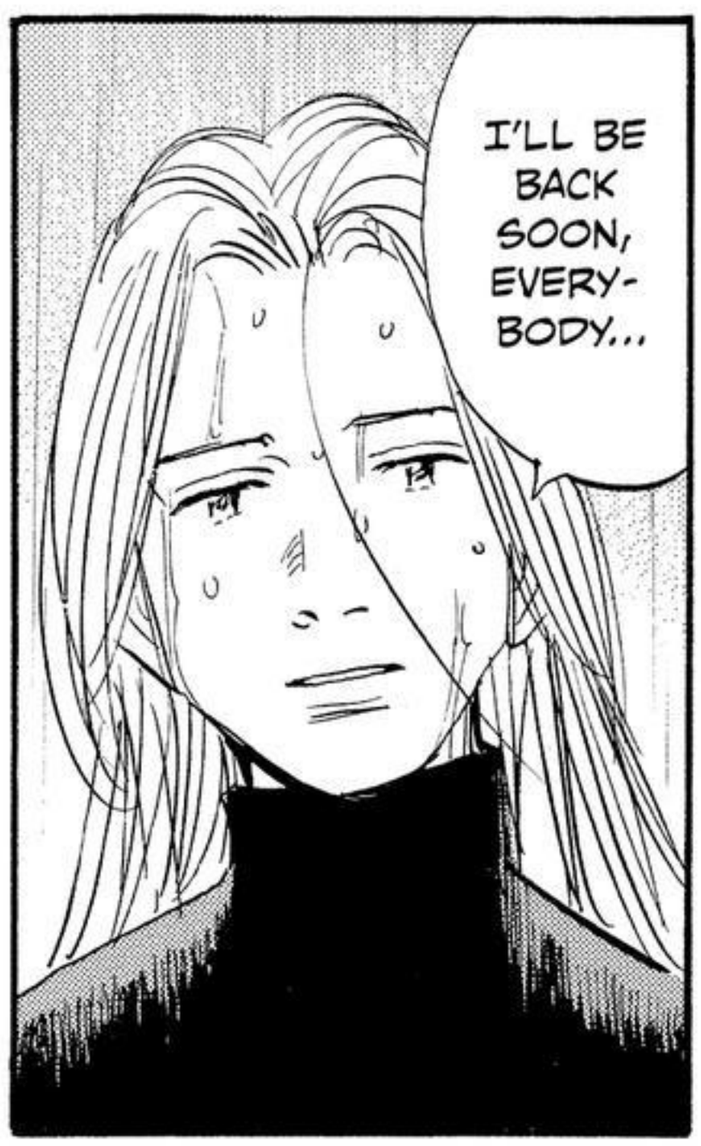

IT'S TIME, SIR.

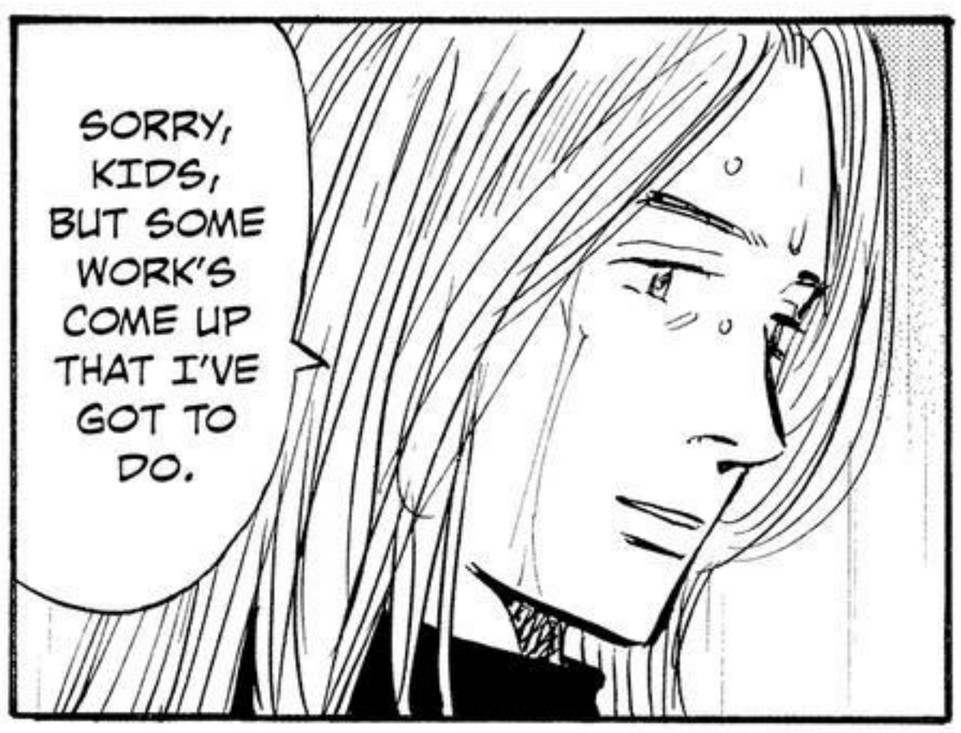
CAN YOU TELL WHAT IT IS?

IT'S BEYOND ANALYSIS.

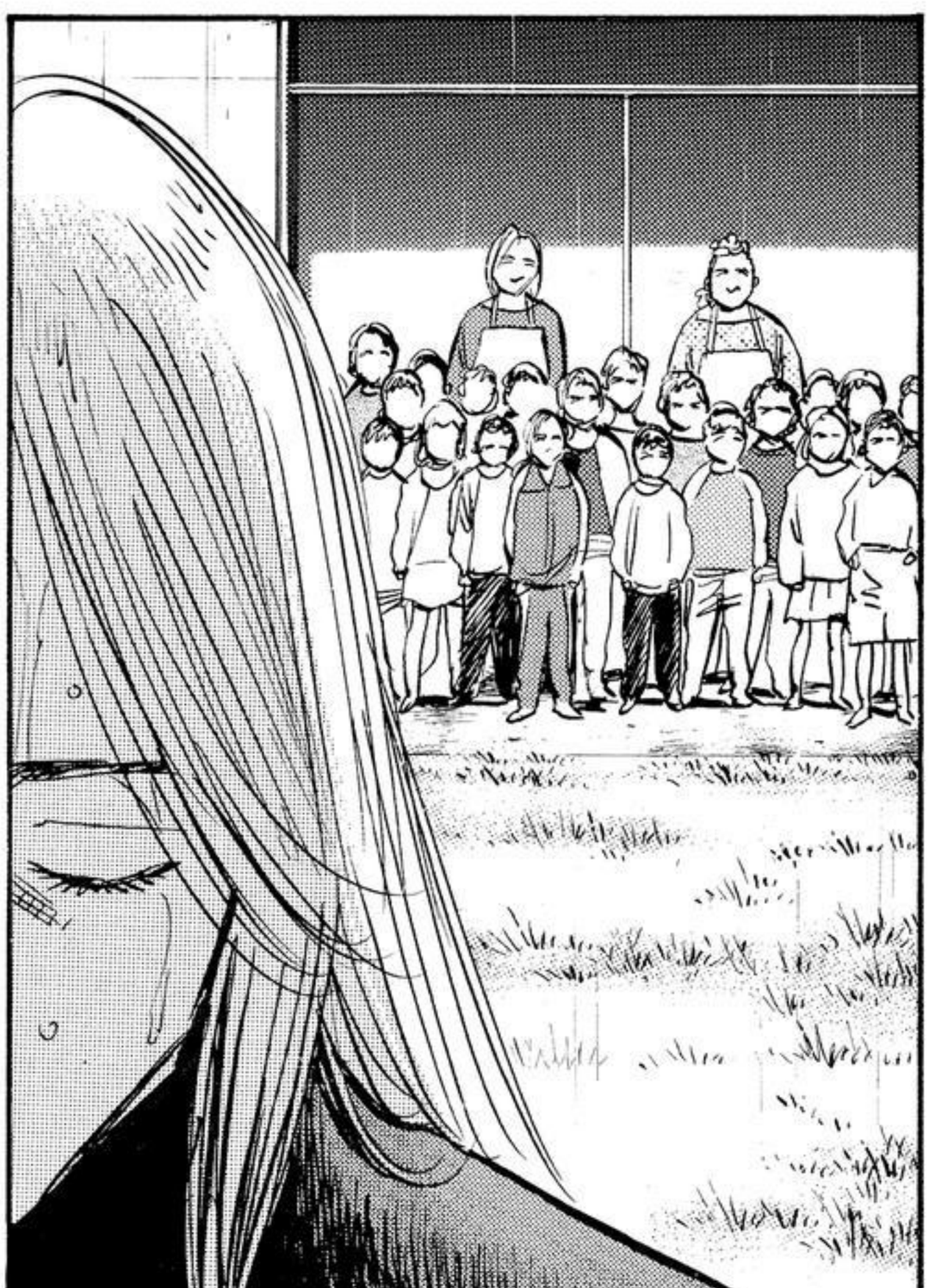




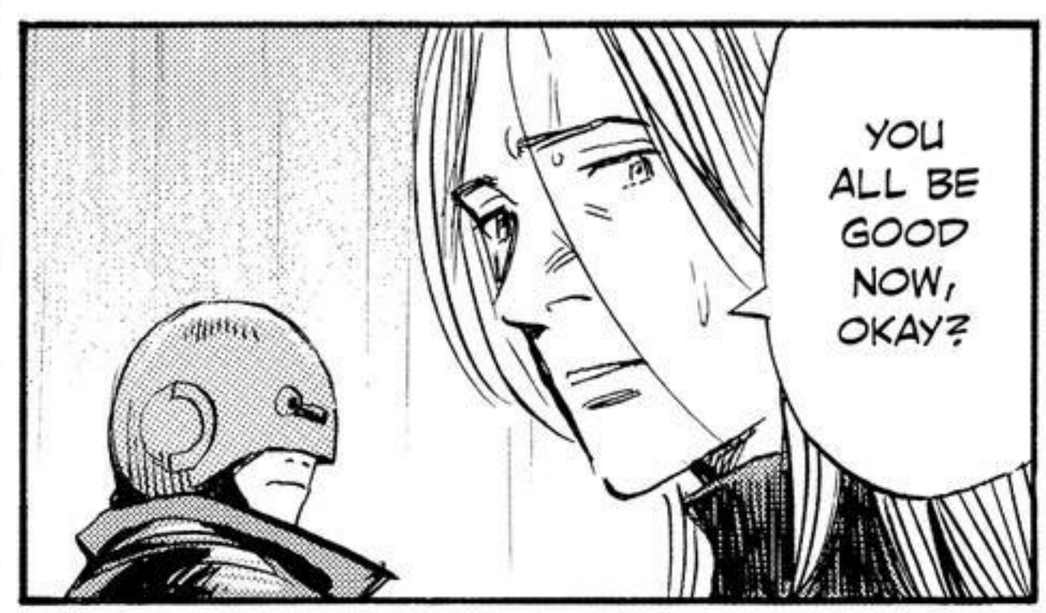

I'LL BE BACK SOON, EVERY-BODY...

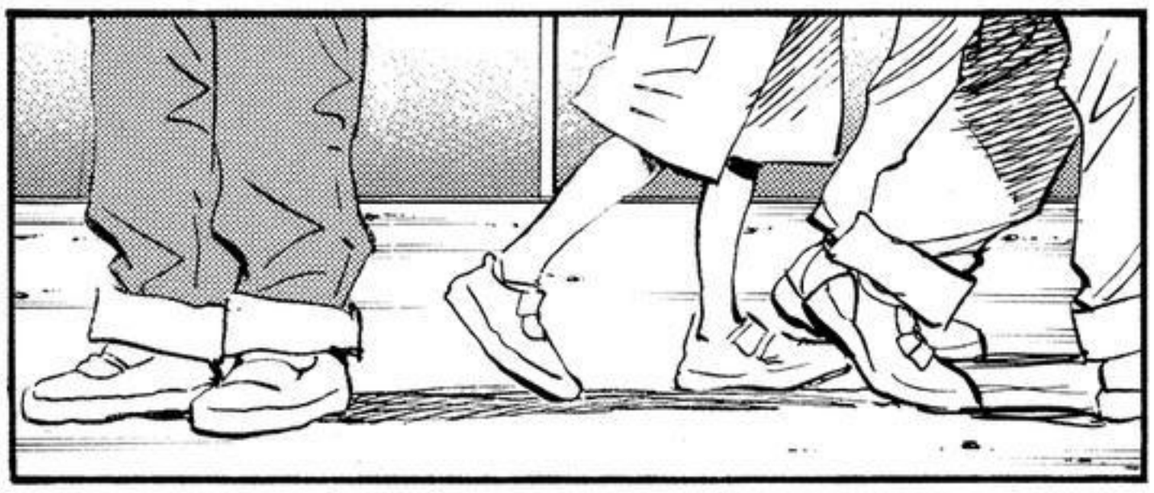

SORRY, KIDS, BUT SOME WORK'S COME UP THAT I'VE GOT TO DO.

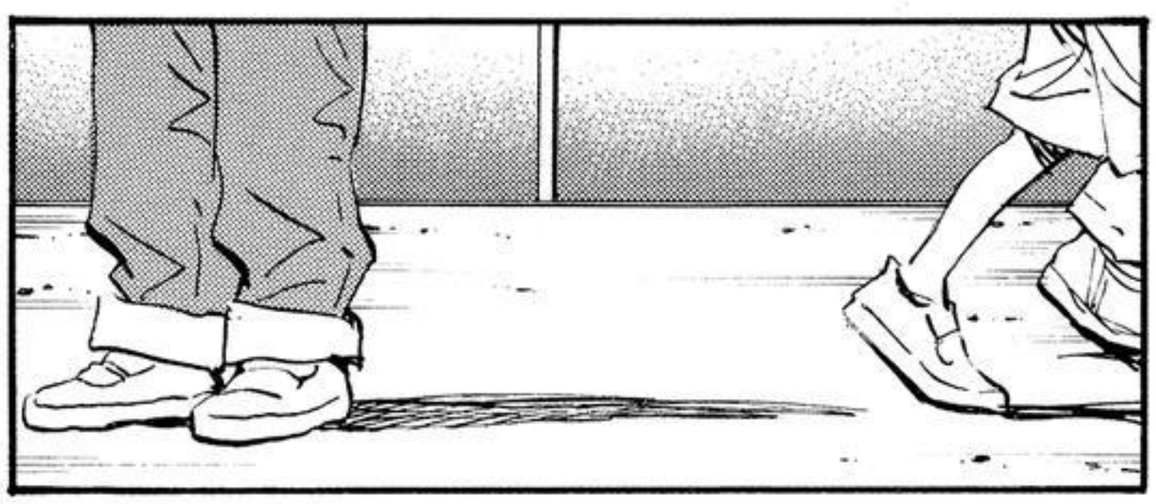
YEAH... THE PARTY'S NOT OVER YET.
B... BUT WHERE ARE YOU GOING, EPSILON?



AWWWWWW!!

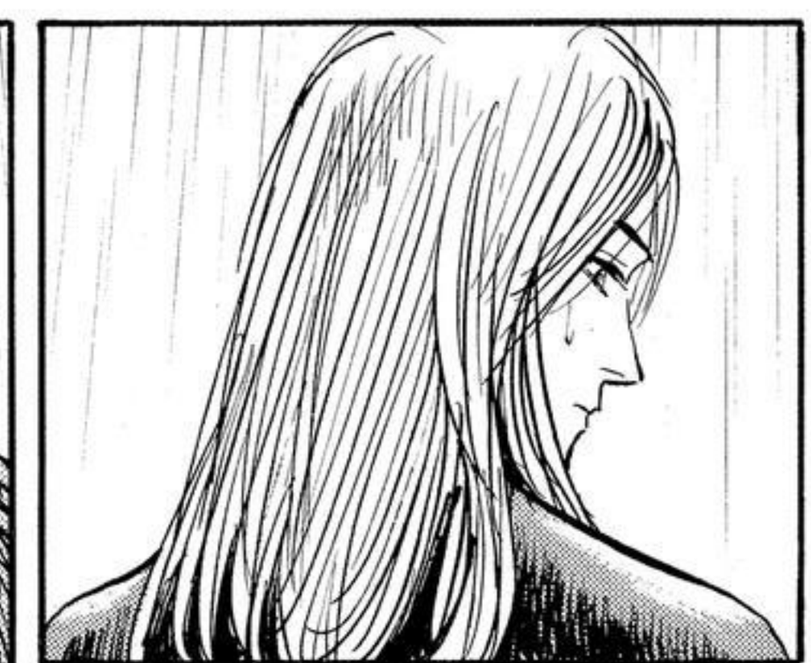

YOU ALL BE GOOD NOW, OKAY?

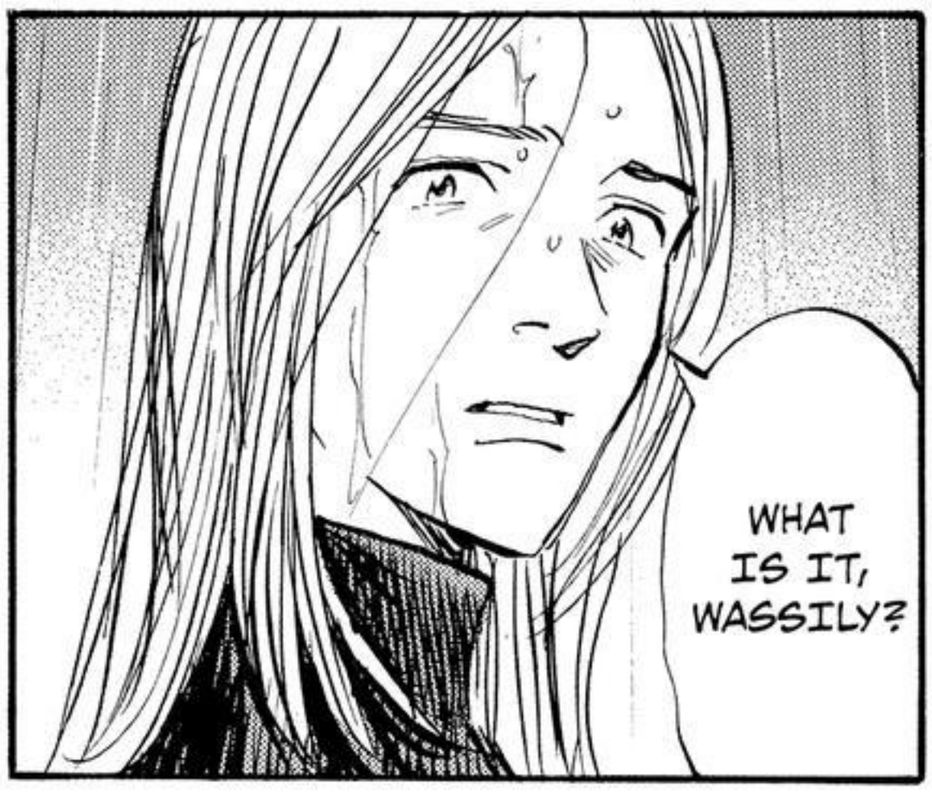




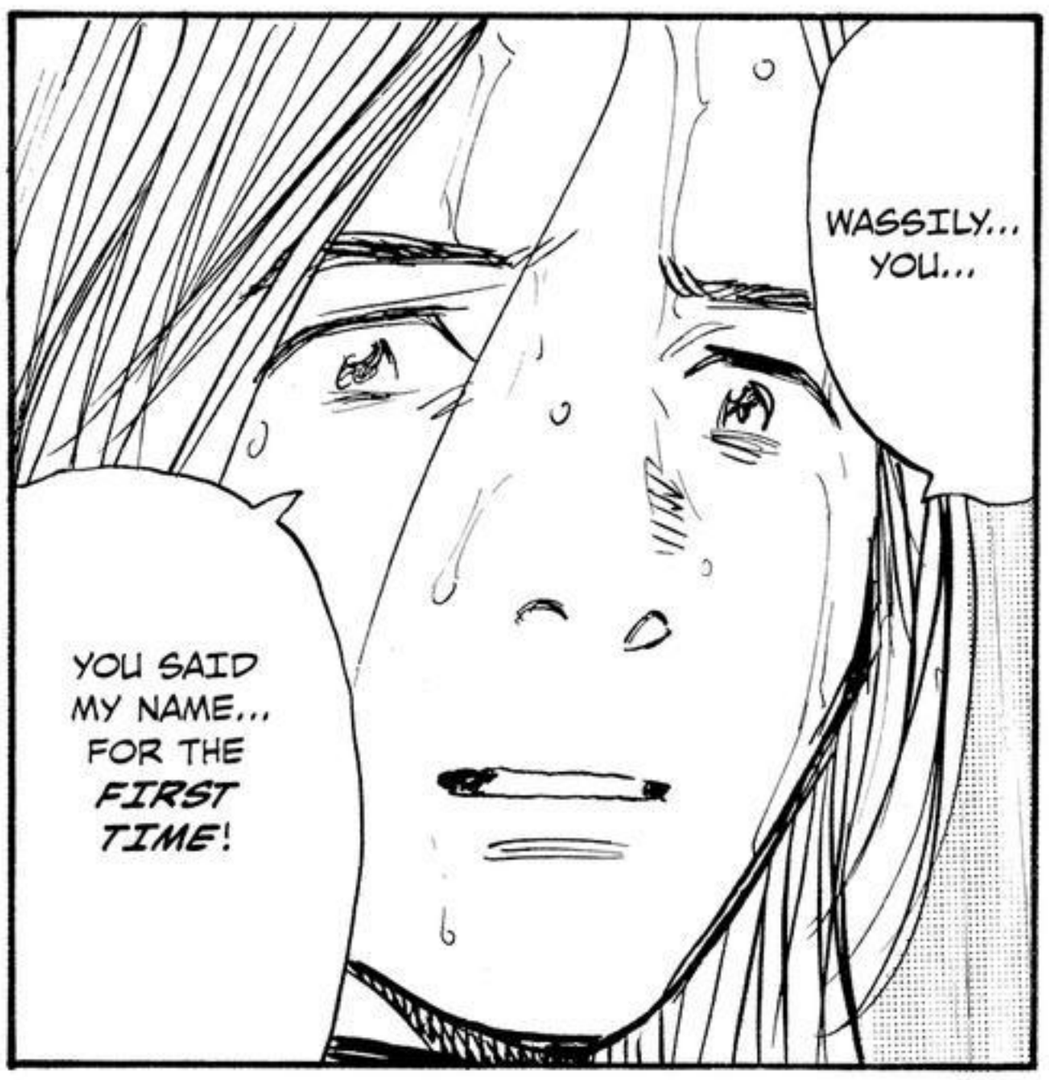
TUMP

HUF
HUF
HUF

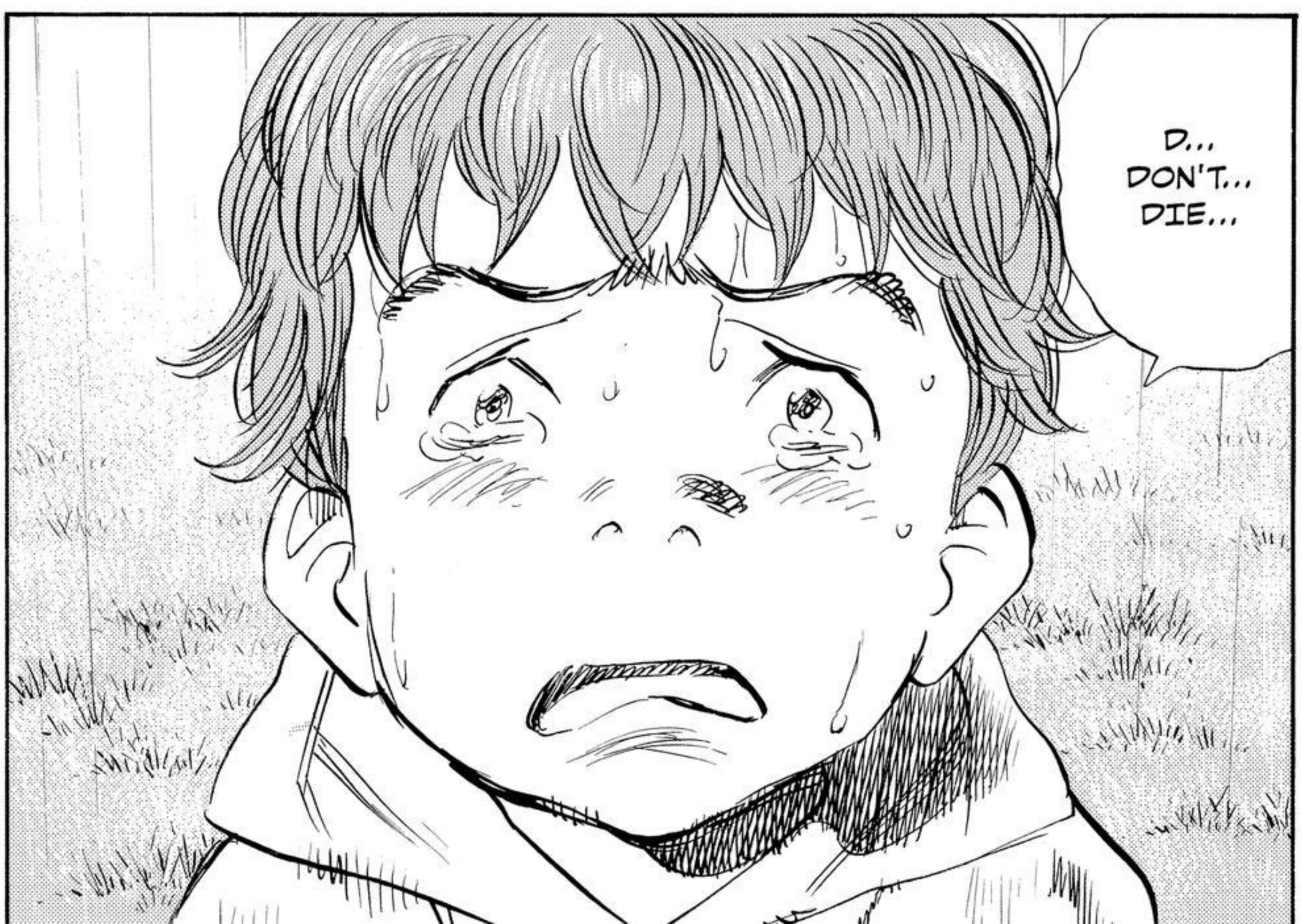



WHAT IS IT, WASSILY?

HUF
HUF


WASSILY... YOU...
YOU SAID MY NAME... FOR THE *FIRST TIME*!

EP... SILON...


D... DON'T... DIE...

DON'T WORRY...

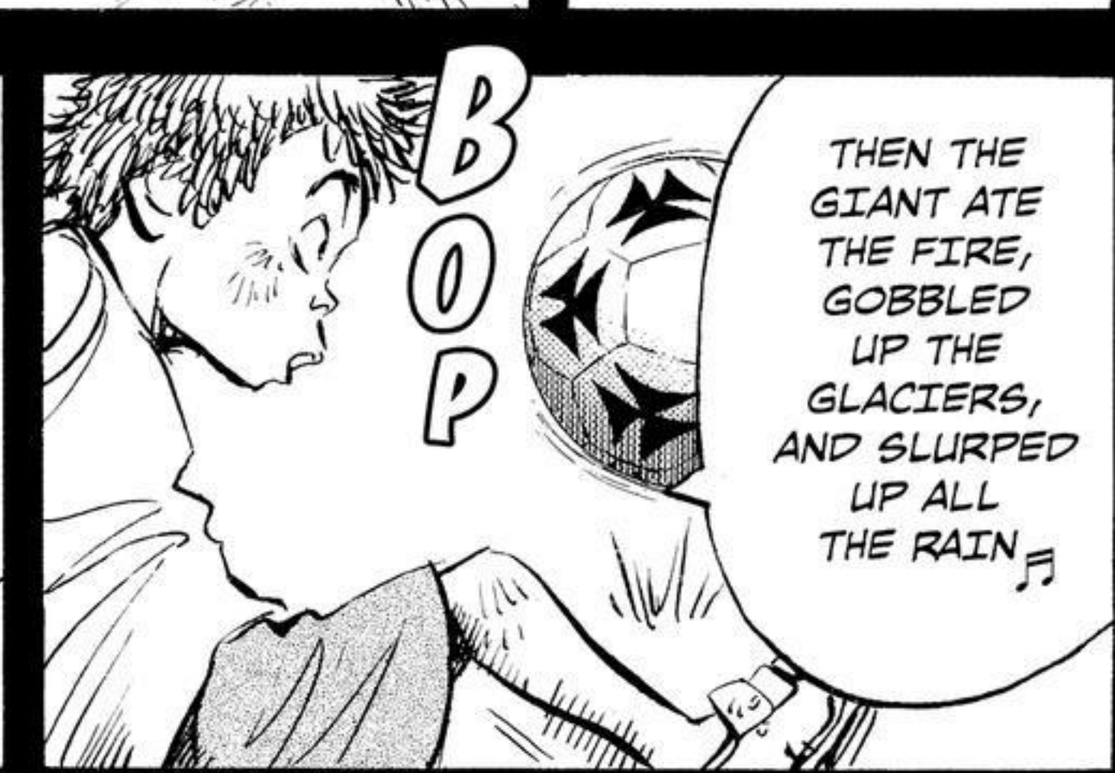
DON'T YOU WORRY.

KRAK

BOP
THE GIANT MADE THE FIRE RIVERS RUN, HE PUSHED THE GLACIERS INTO THE OCEAN...♬
AND BROUGHT THE RAINS THAT MADE A TERRIBLE FLOOD...♬

BOP
THE GIANT MADE A SOUTH POLE IN THE DESERT...♬

BONK
WHOOPS!
AND HE ATE UP THE WHOLE EARTH...


BOP
THEN THE GIANT ATE THE FIRE, GOBBLED UP THE GLACIERS, AND SLURPED UP ALL THE RAIN♬

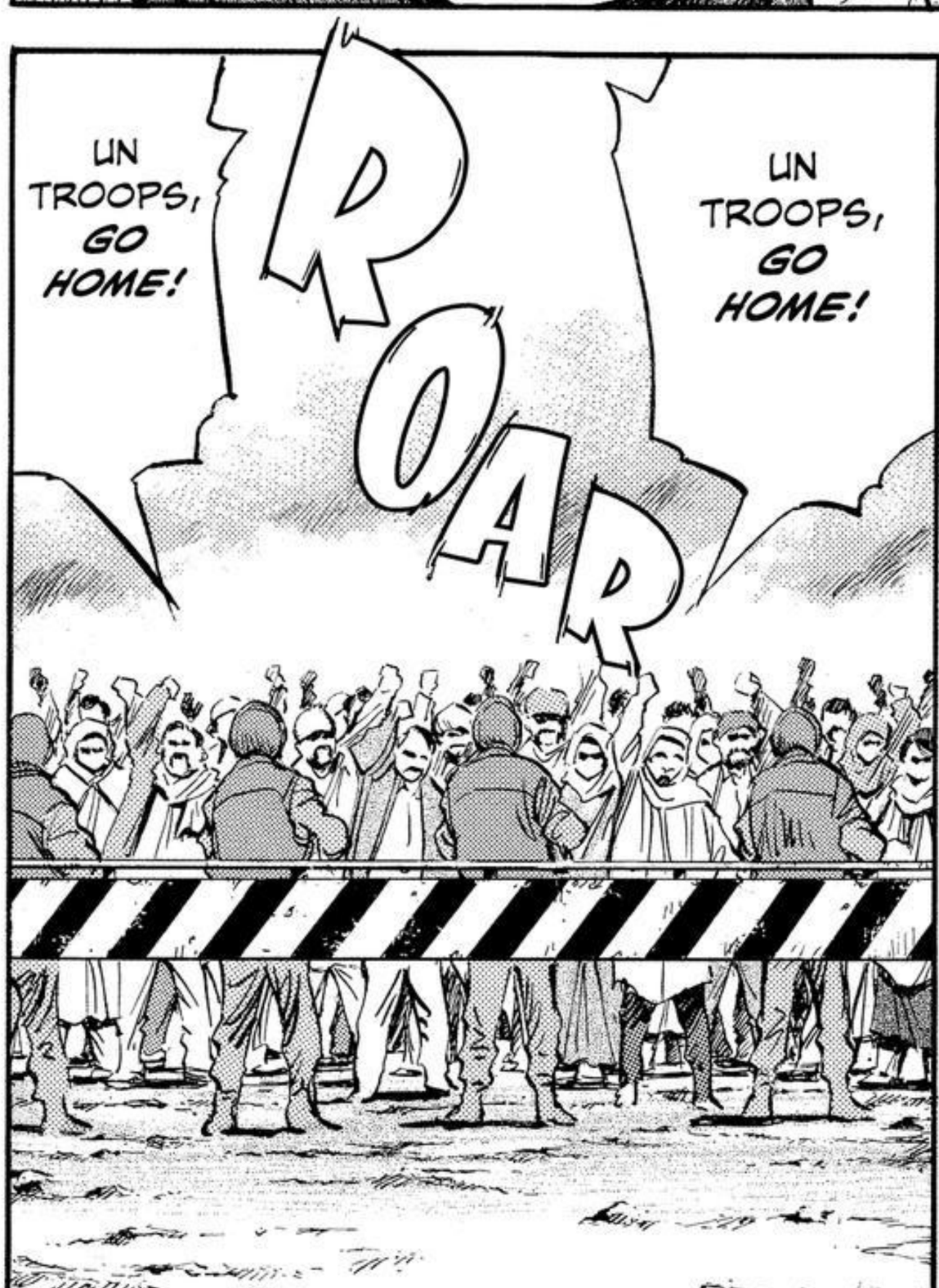
YOU ARE THE ONES WHO MUST LEAVE!

GO HOME !!
GO AWAY!!

THIS IS OUR VILLAGE!
WE'RE NOT GONNA EVACUATE!

...IS TO BE OUR PARADISE! IT WAS PROMISED TO US BY OUR KING!

THIS LAND ...


UN TROOPS, GO HOME!
ROAR
UN TROOPS, GO HOME!

WE WON'T ALLOW YOU TO PUT YOUR FILTHY HANDS ON OUR SACRED SOIL!!

OVER HERE...

ROAR

SHEEN

HEY, MAYBE YOU COULD SHINE A LIGHT IN HERE WITH THAT *PHOTON* ENERGY OR WHATEVER IT IS...

WOW... *THAT'S* BETTER... YOU'RE A USEFUL 'BOT, AREN'T YA?!

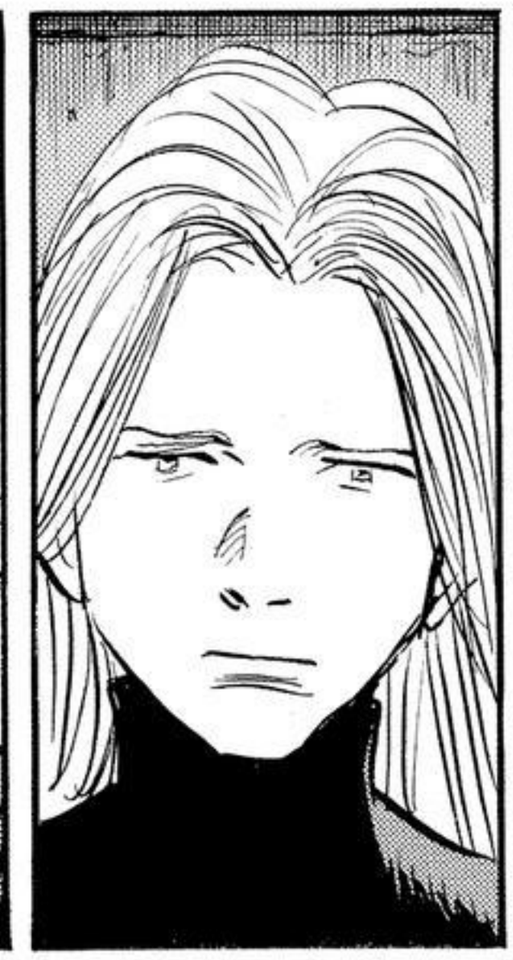
IT'S DARK IN HERE, SO WATCH YOUR STEP... BUT WHAT AM I SAYING? YOU'RE A *ROBOT*!!

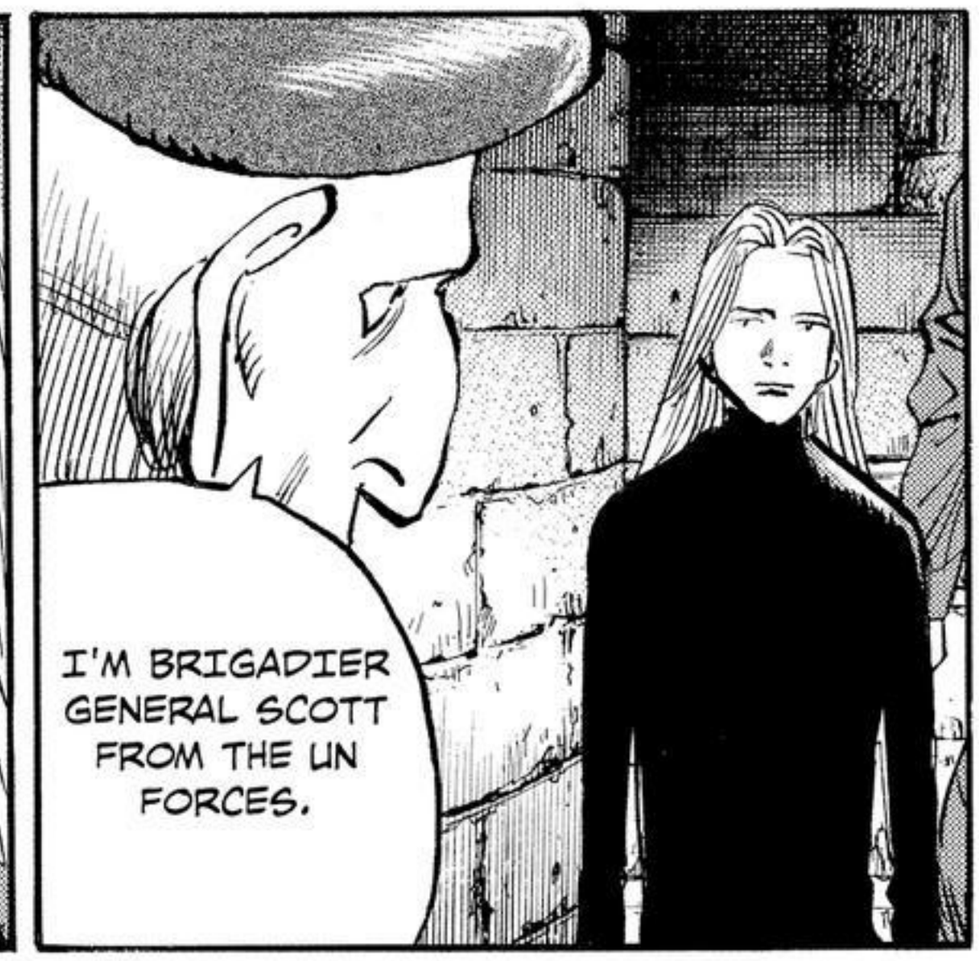
I BROUGHT EPSILON WITH ME, SIR!

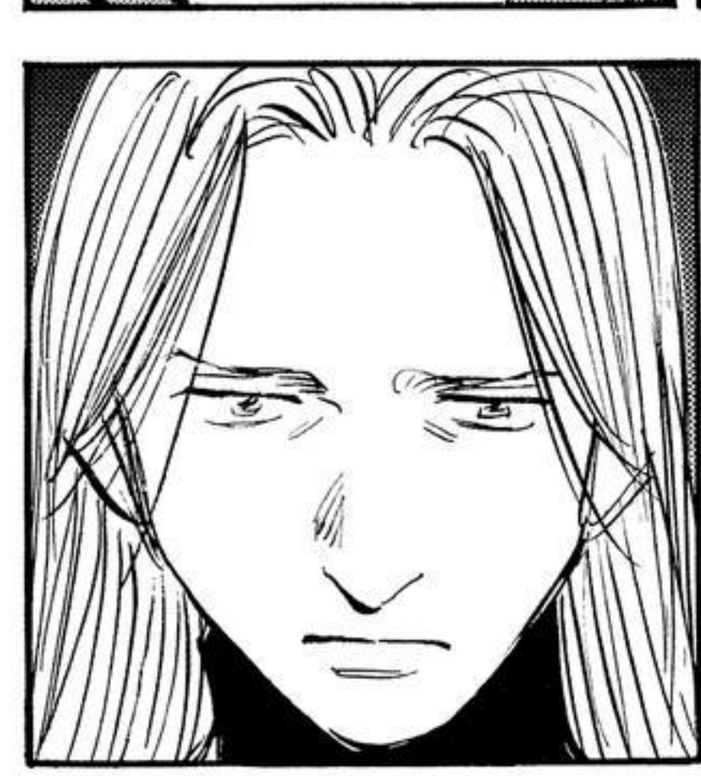
KLOMP
KLOMP

DIM YOUR LIGHT A BIT, PAL. YOU'RE BLINDING ME!
THANK YOU, SOLDIER.

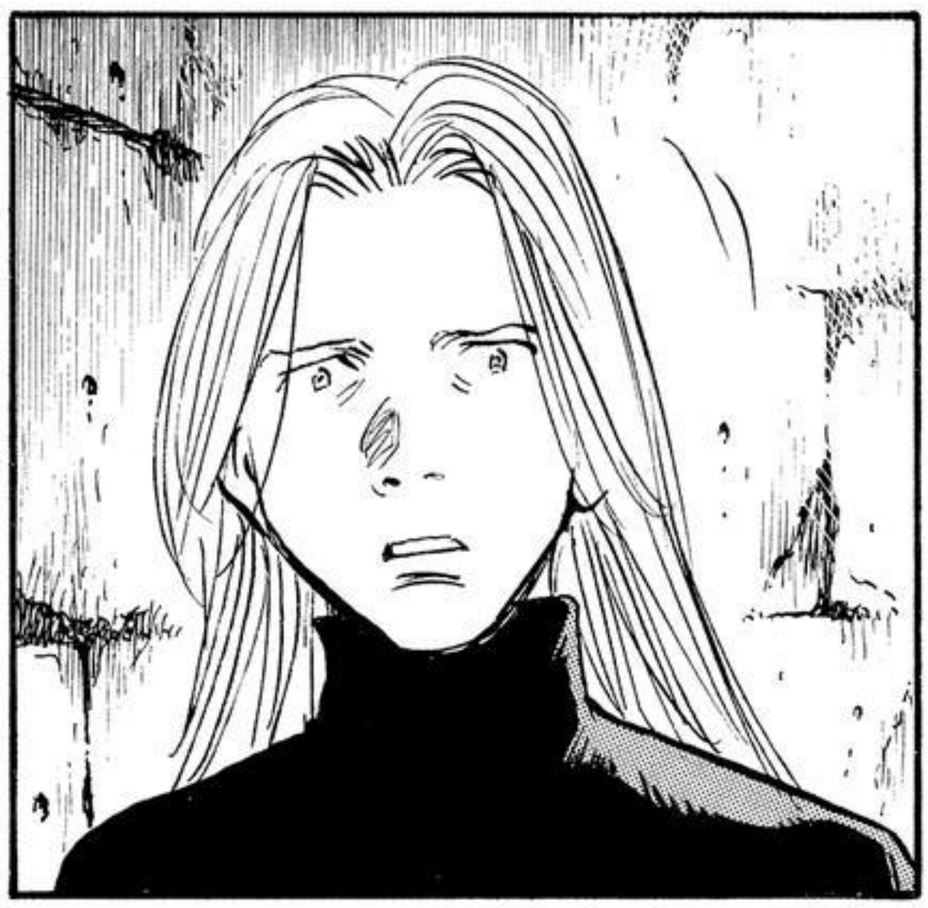
SO YOU'RE THAT DRAFT-DODGING ROBOT *EPSILON.*



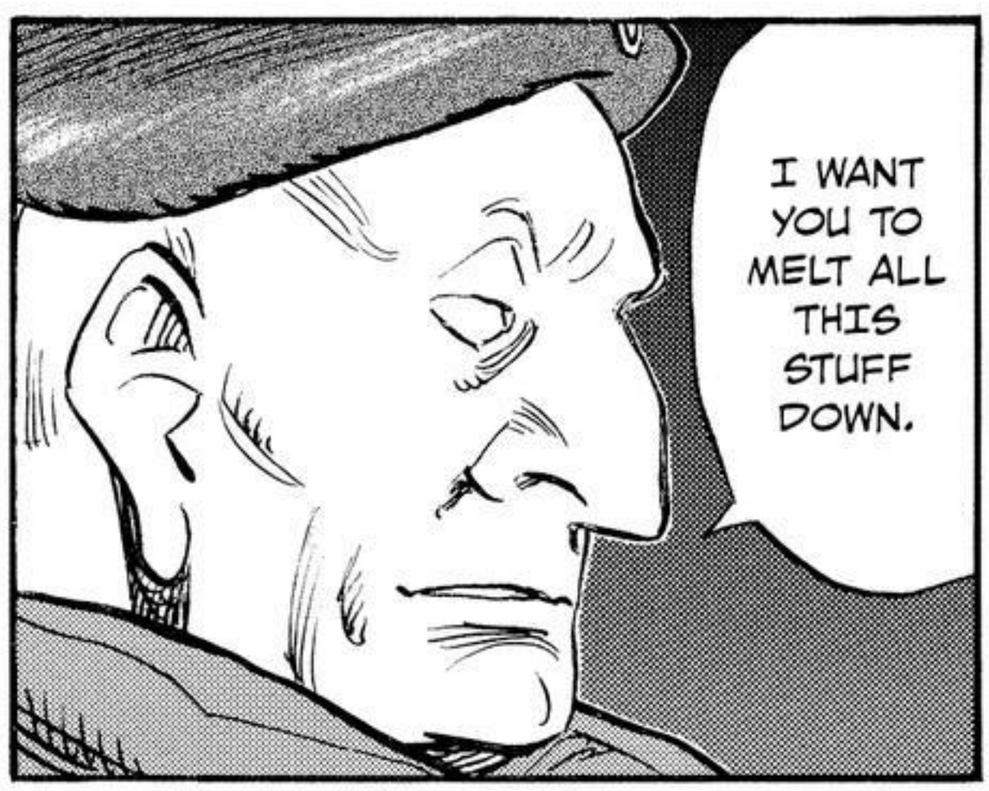

I'M BRIGADIER GENERAL SCOTT FROM THE UN FORCES.



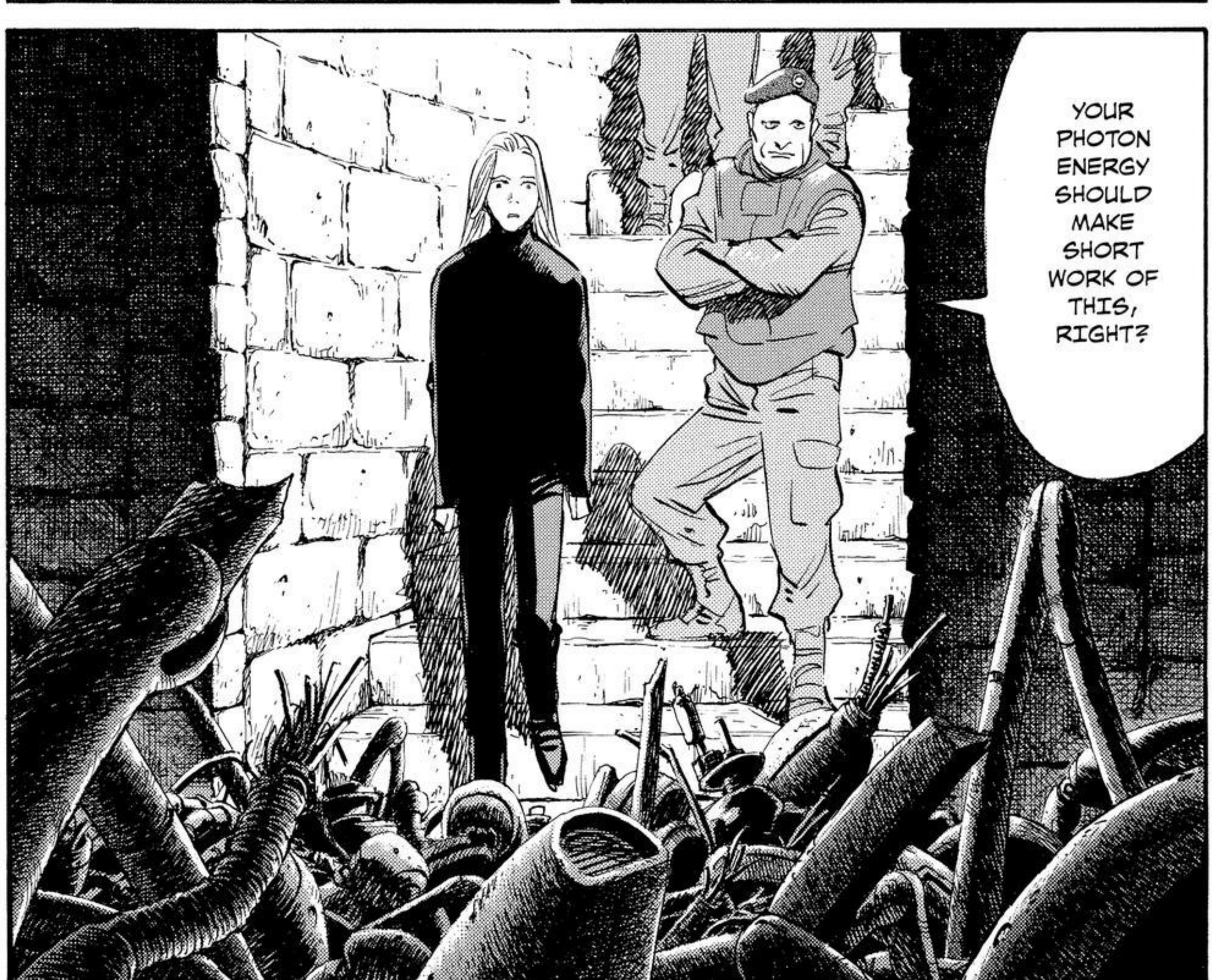
NO WONDER YOU'RE A COWARD.
I MUST SAY, FOR A 'BOT, YOU'VE GOT A REAL DAINTY PHYSIQUE THERE...



THIS IS GOING TO BE *YOUR* JOB.
SO LEAST YOU CAN DO IS HELP WITH THE POST-WAR CLEAN-UP, RIGHT?

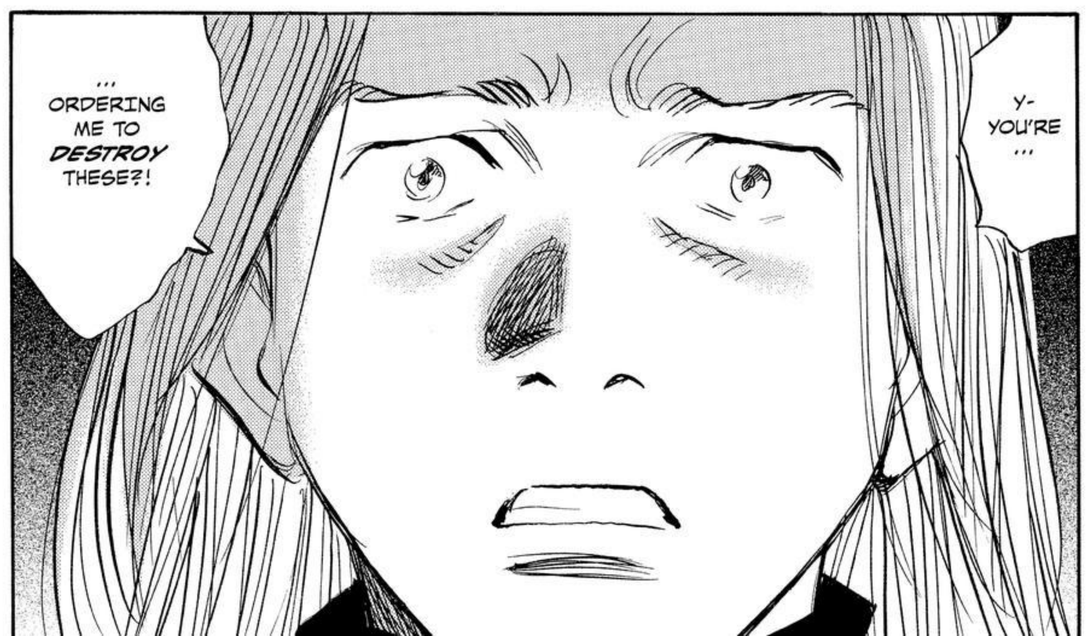

I WANT YOU TO MELT ALL THIS STUFF DOWN.

W... WHAT IS THIS?


YOUR PHOTON ENERGY SHOULD MAKE SHORT WORK OF THIS, RIGHT?

Act 50

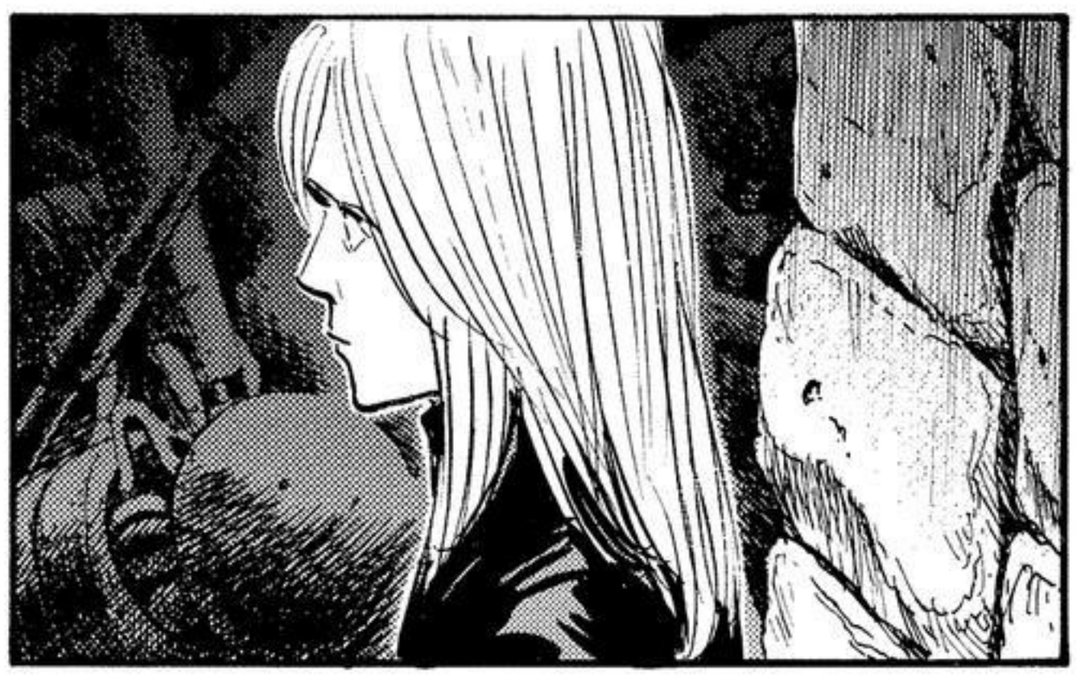
TO EAT THE EARTH



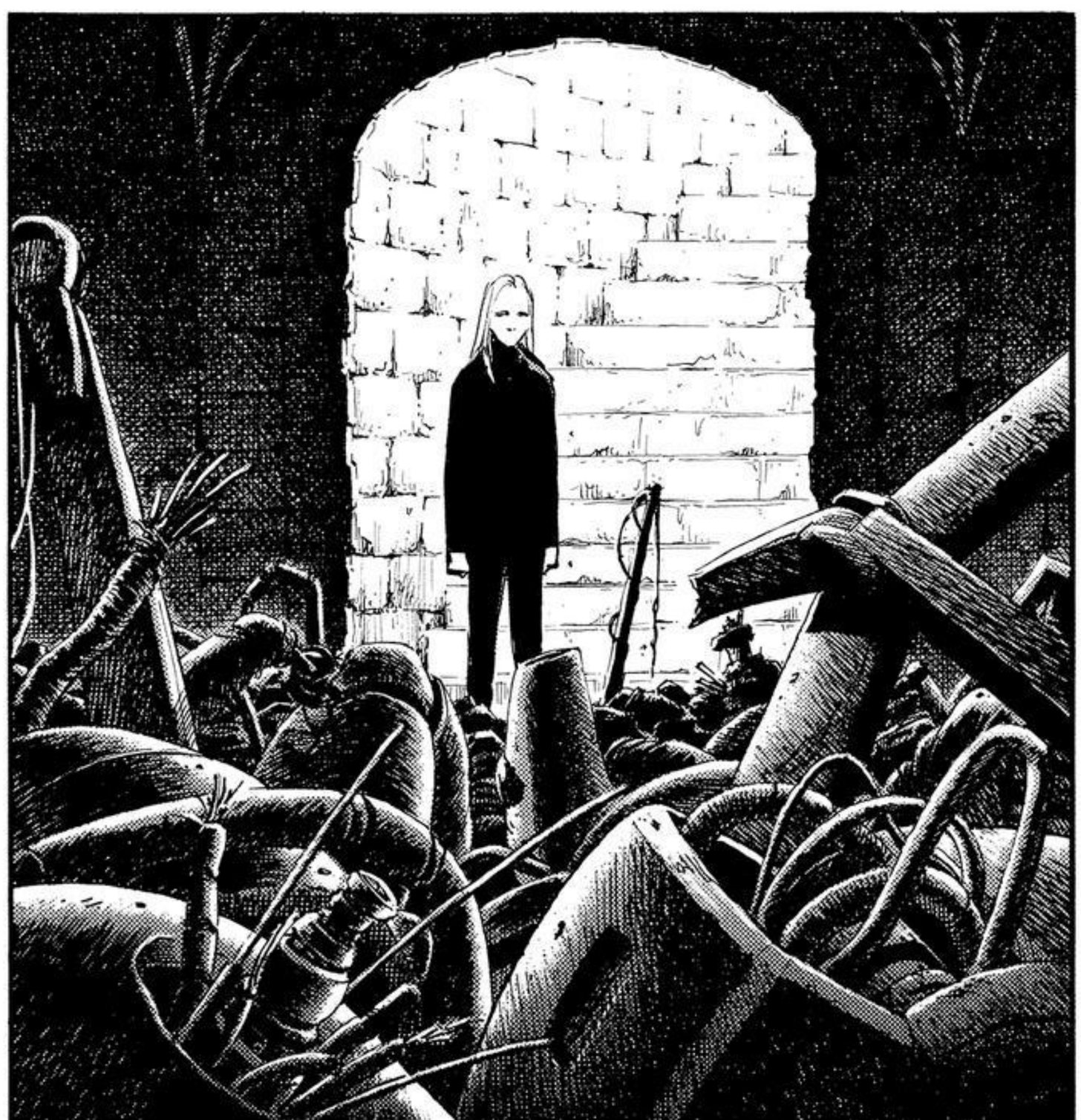
I'LL LET YOU KNOW AS SOON AS WE'VE EVACUATED ALL THE LOCALS.
ANYWAY, HURRY UP AND GET IT DONE.

S... SO WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THE AI'S THAT WERE REMOVED?

PROBABLY USED IN SOME EXPERI-MENTS, NO?



FOR SUCH A WIMPY-LOOKING 'BOT, I'VE HEARD YOU'RE CAPABLE OF SOME REAL *FIREWORKS*...



RRRMM

EVACUATE AS ORDERED!!

FWP FWP FWP FWP

ALL RESIDENTS MUST EVACUATE AS ORDERED!!

I REPEAT. ALL RESIDENTS MUST EVACUATE...

HURRY IT UP!!

ROAR

READY, EPSILON?

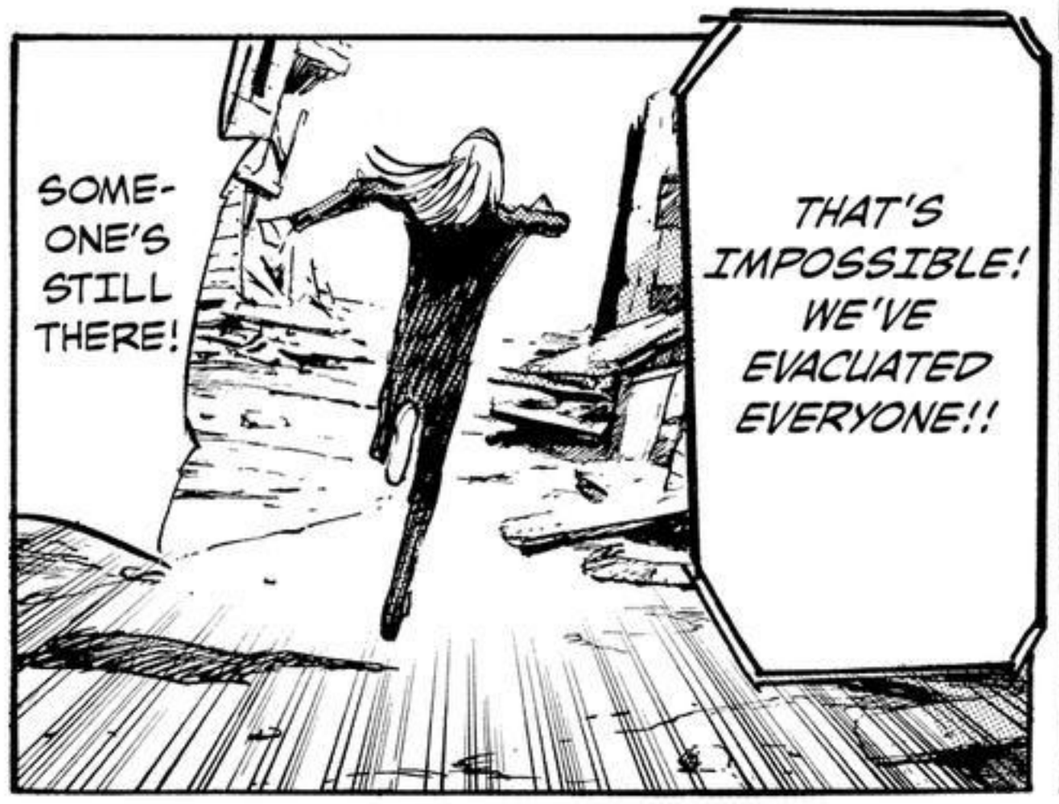
WAIT ...

...

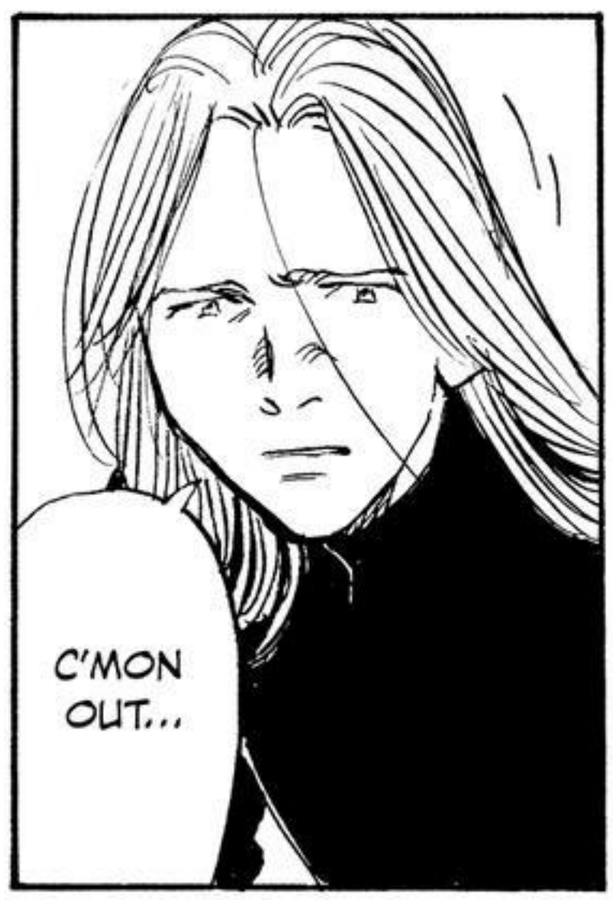
I'M STARTING THE COUNT-DOWN NOW.

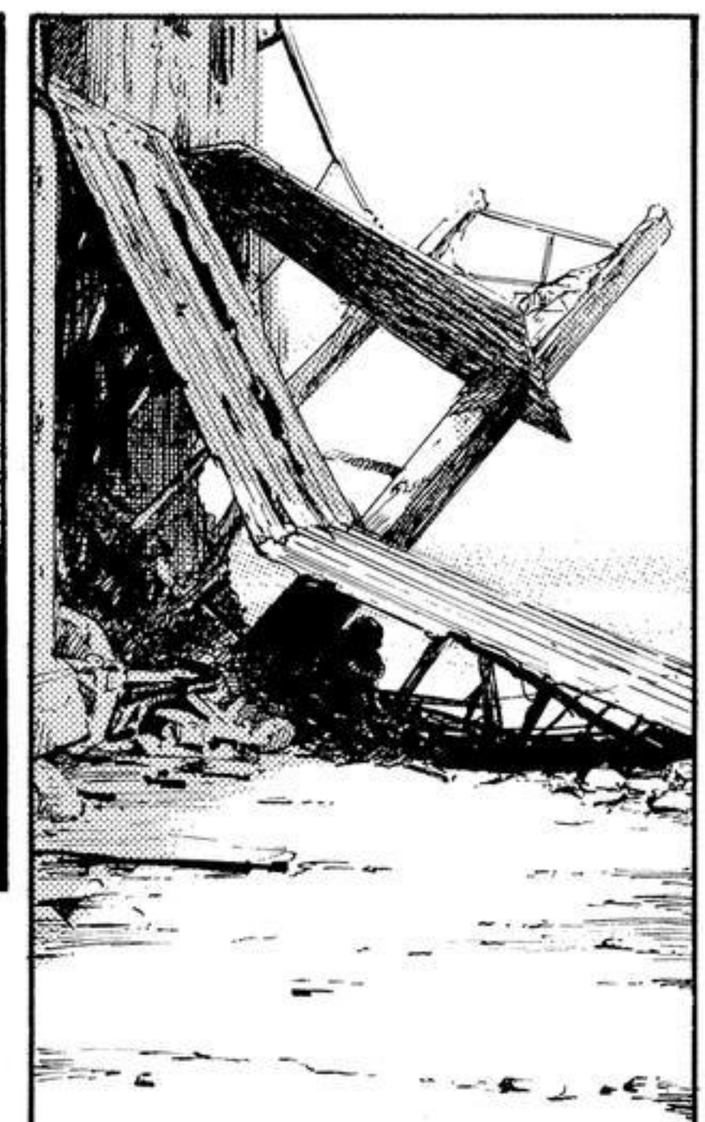
WHAT?!
THERE'S STILL SOMEONE IN THE VILLAGE!!

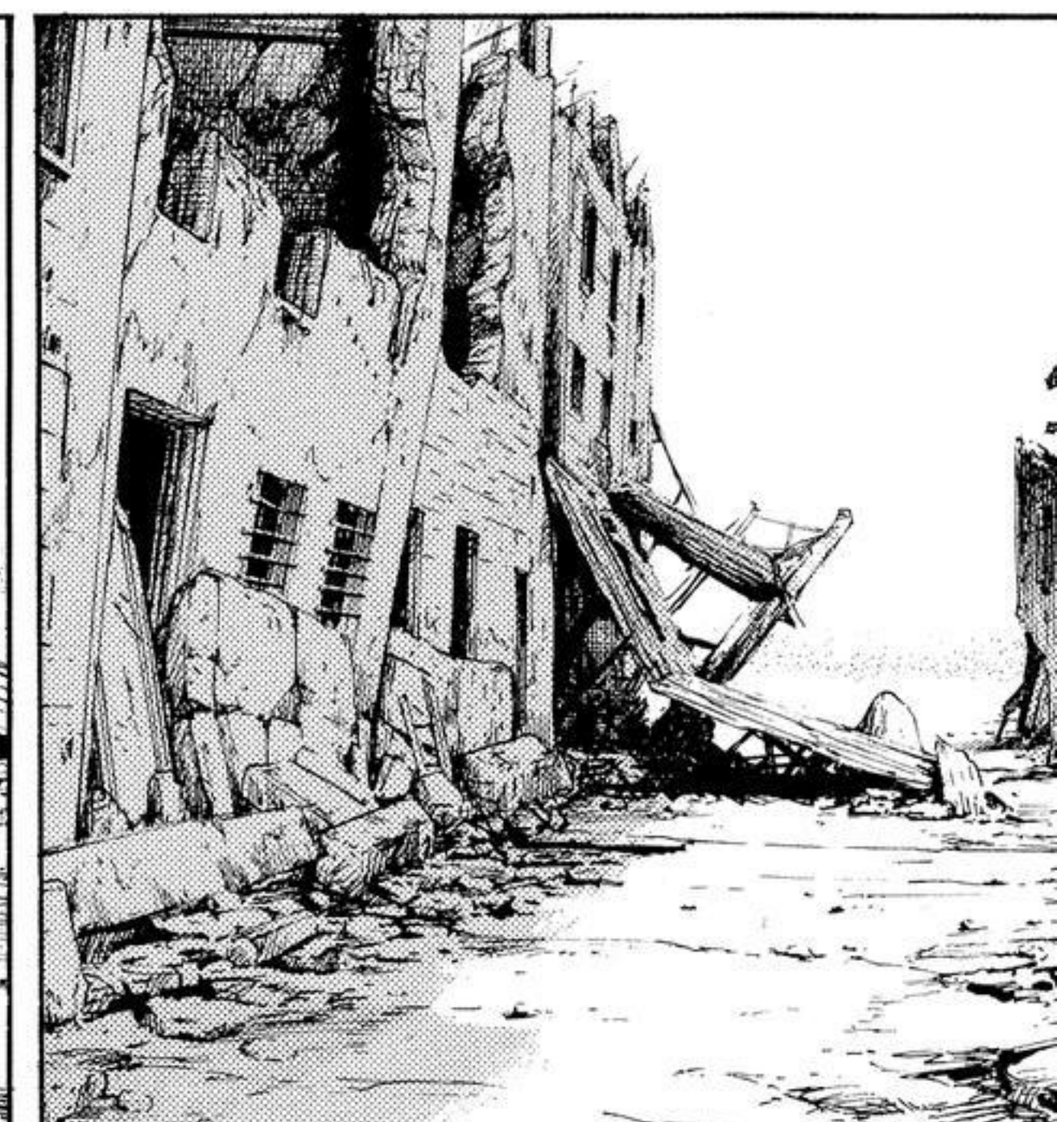
DASH
WE'RE PAST THE TIME LIMIT, EPSILON! HURRY UP AND FINISH THE JOB!
NO!!


SOME-ONE'S STILL THERE!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! WE'VE EVACUATED EVERYONE!!

SHF
MUST BE A DAMN DOG OR A CAT! JUST DO YOUR JOB, EPSILON!
I'M GETTING A LIFE-FORM READING!

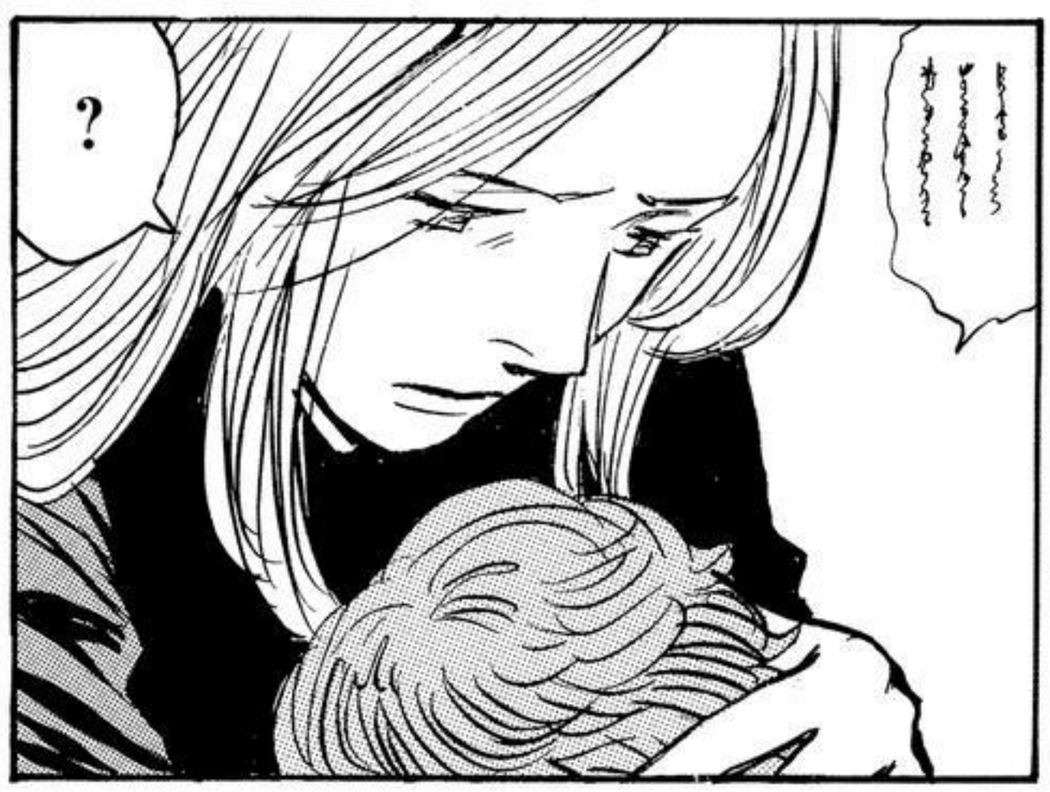

C'MON OUT...

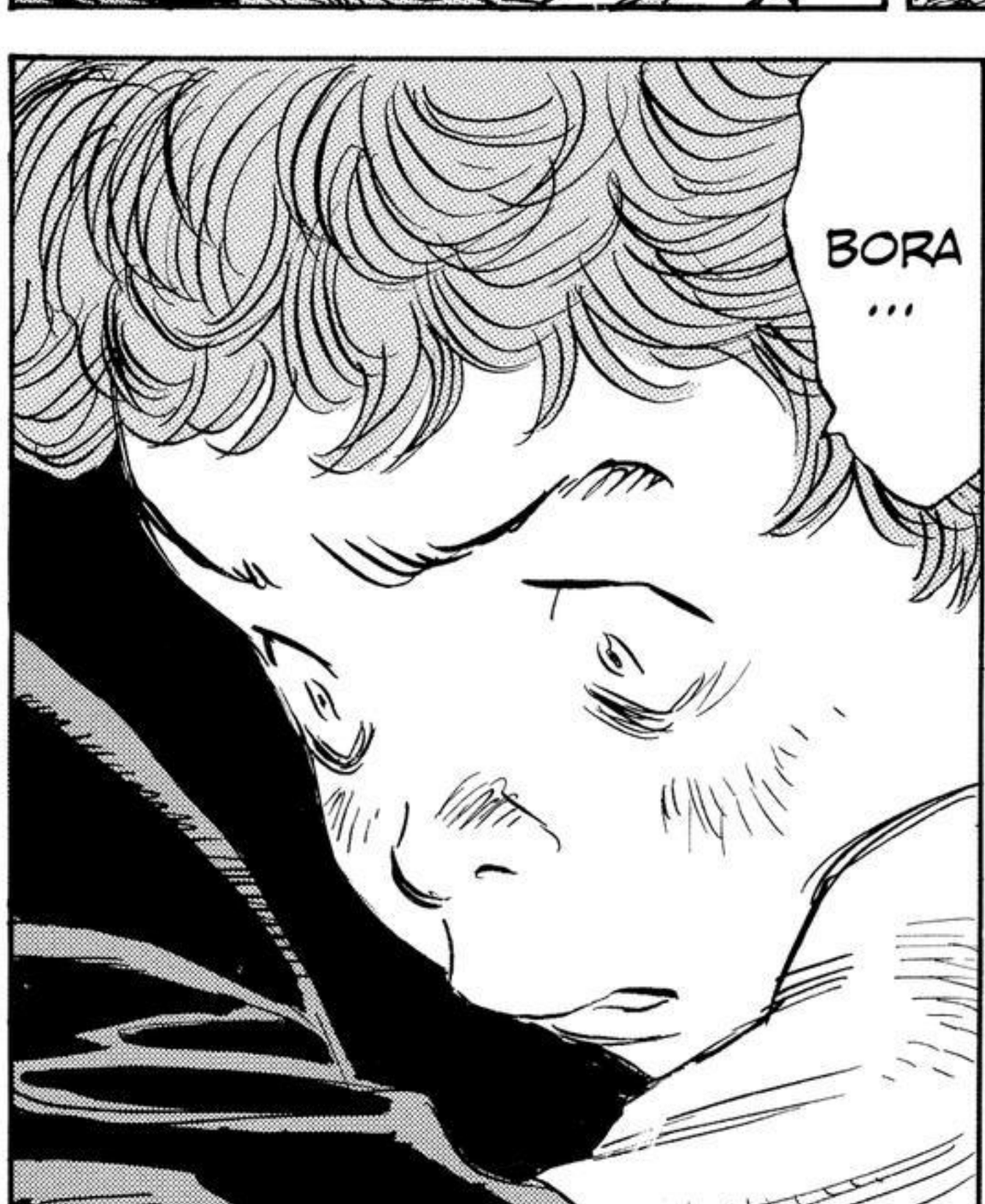


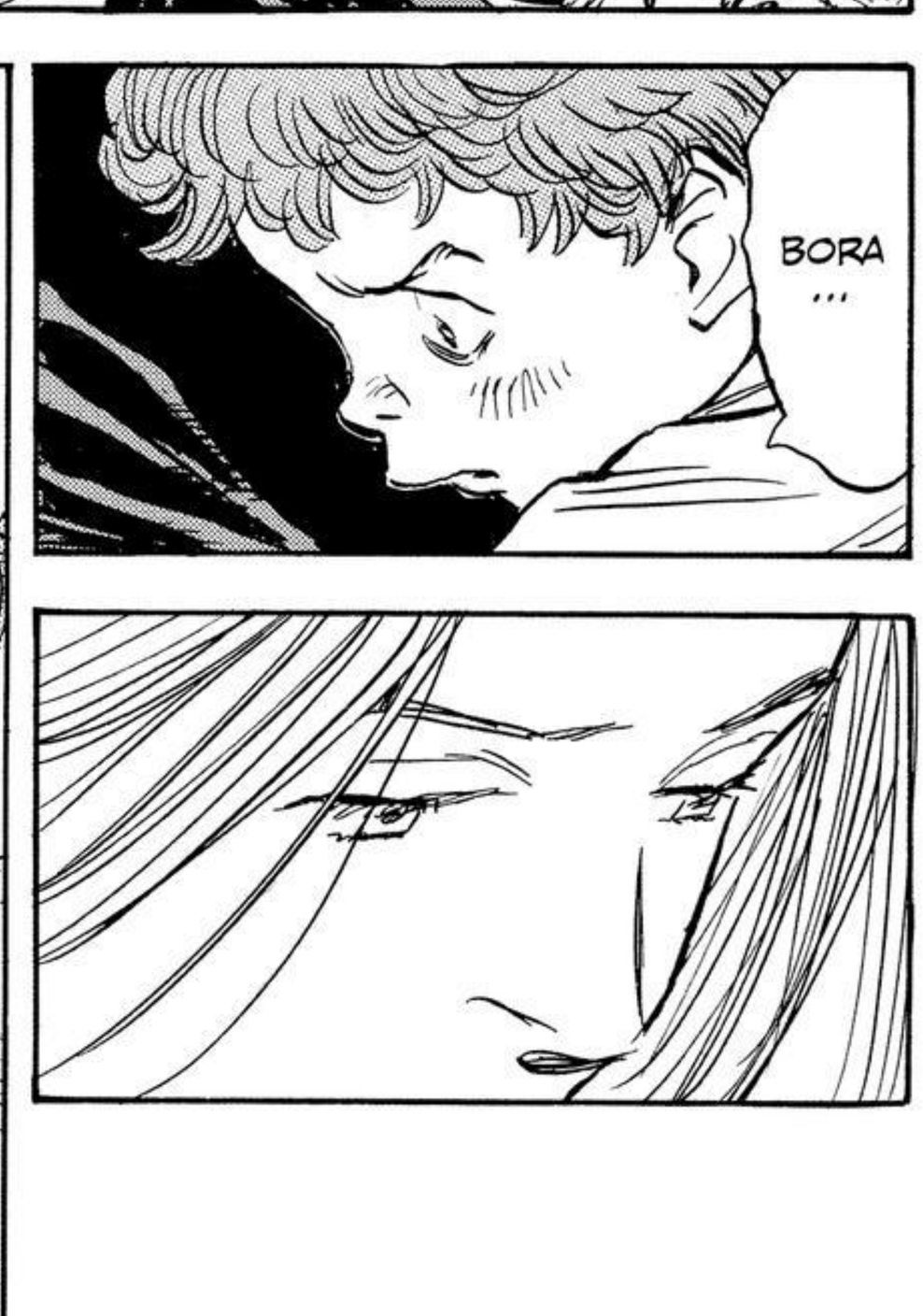


C'MON ...

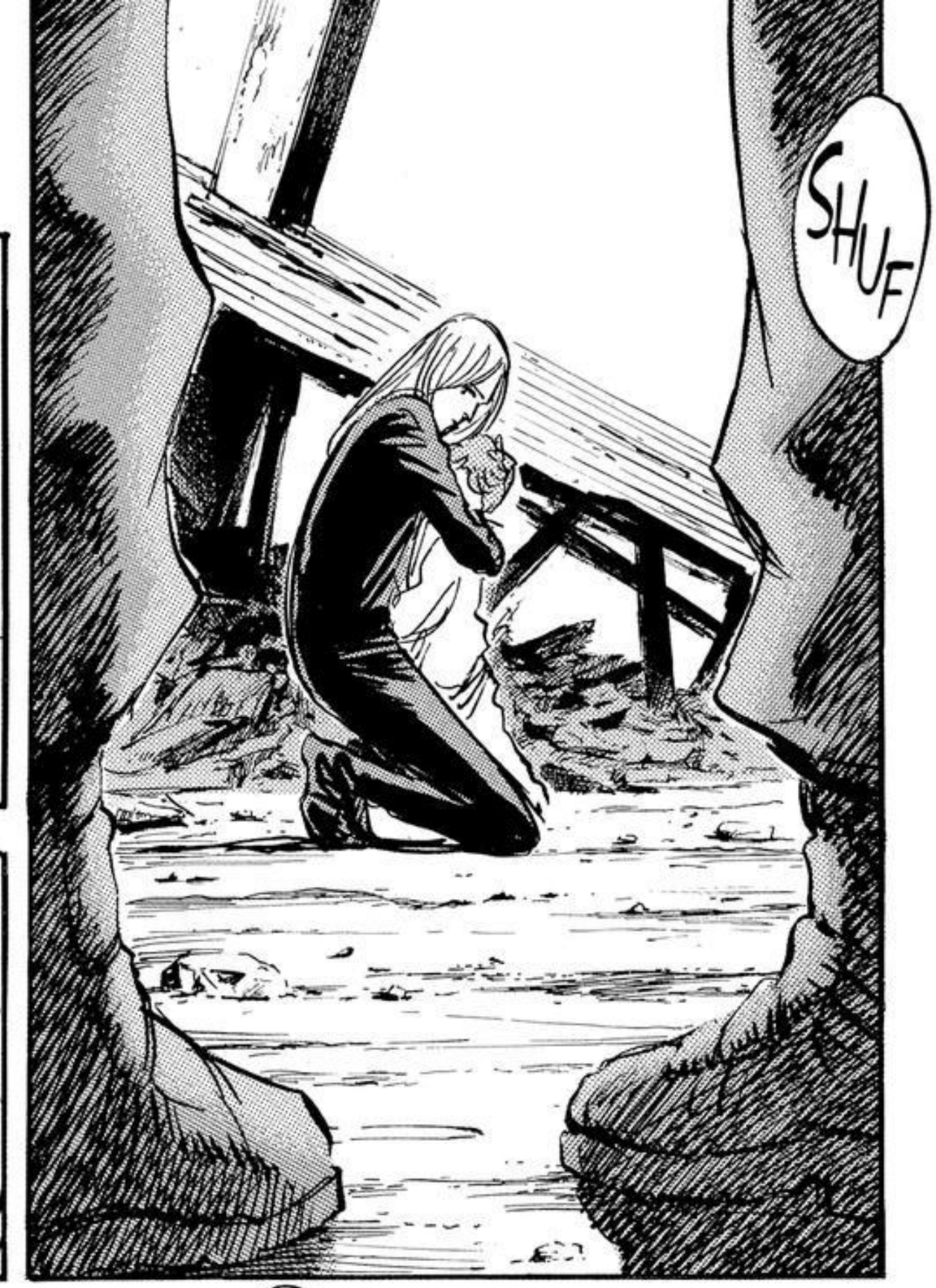
DON'T BE AFRAID.
IT'S OKAY...


?


BORA ...


BORA ...

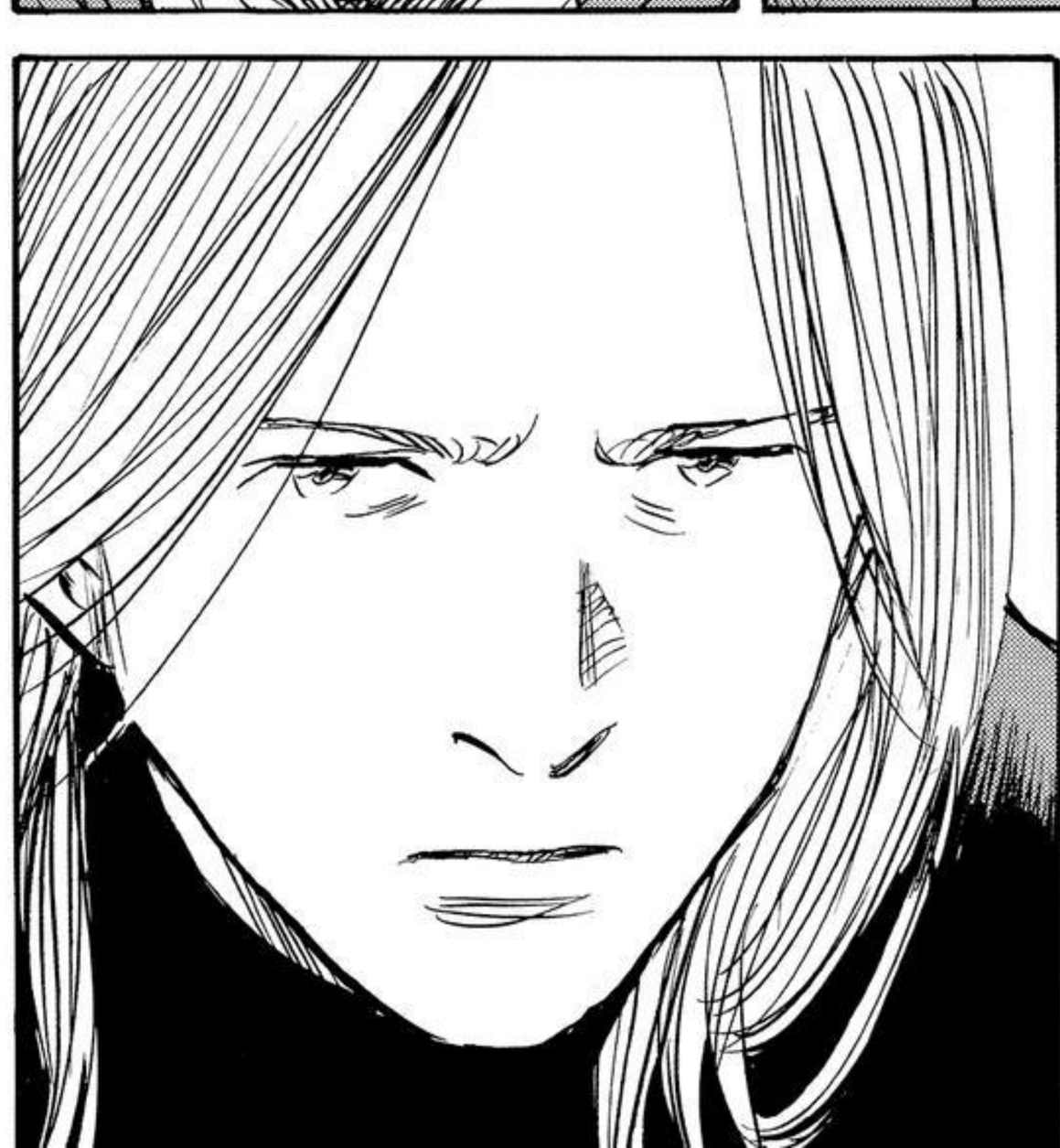
...
THAT I
...
DO YOU REALIZE THAT YOU ...

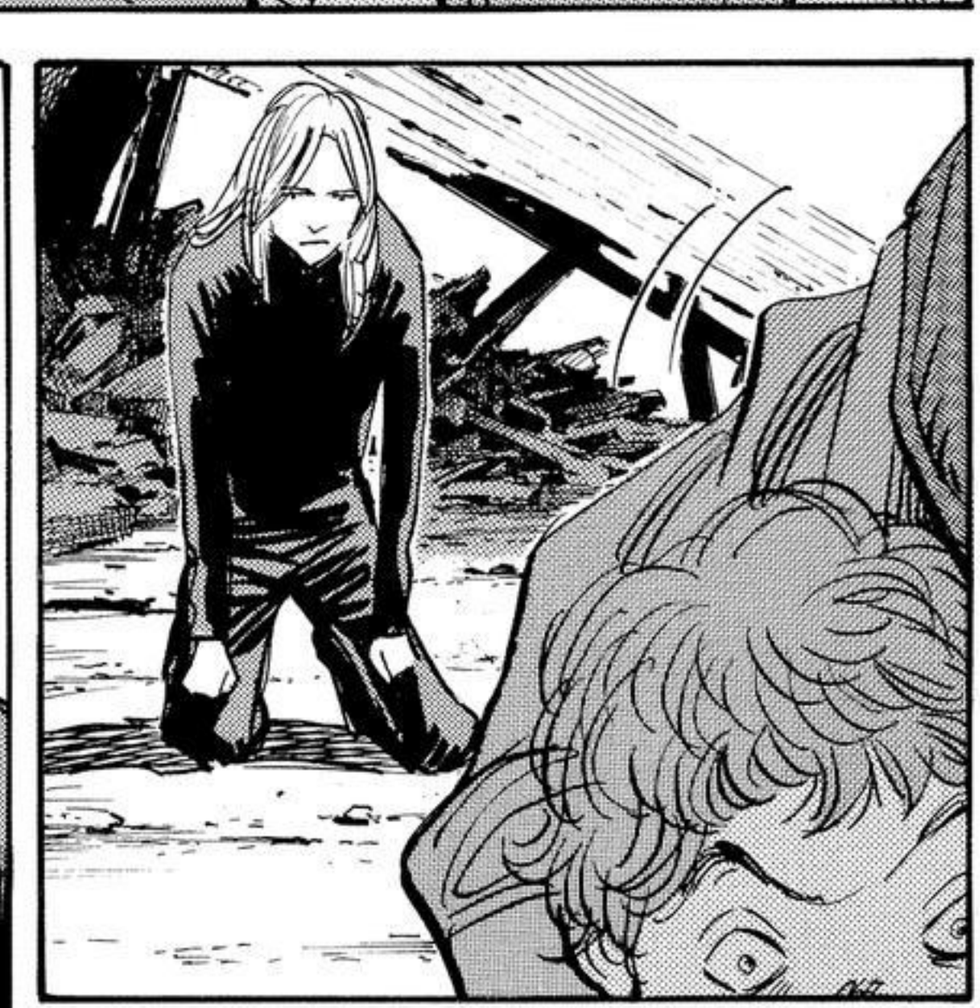

SHUF

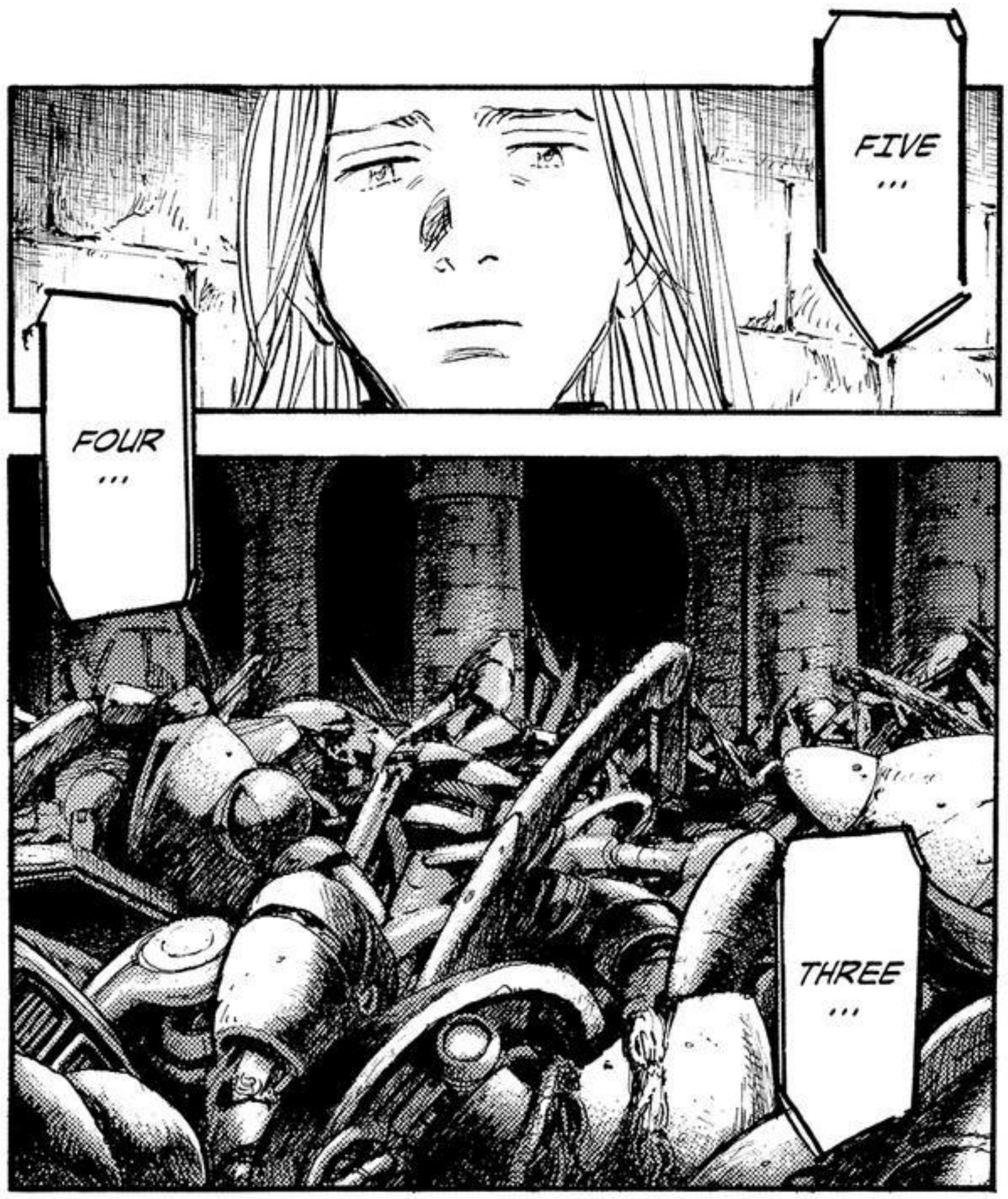
...NEARLY TURNED THIS BOY INTO ASHES?!

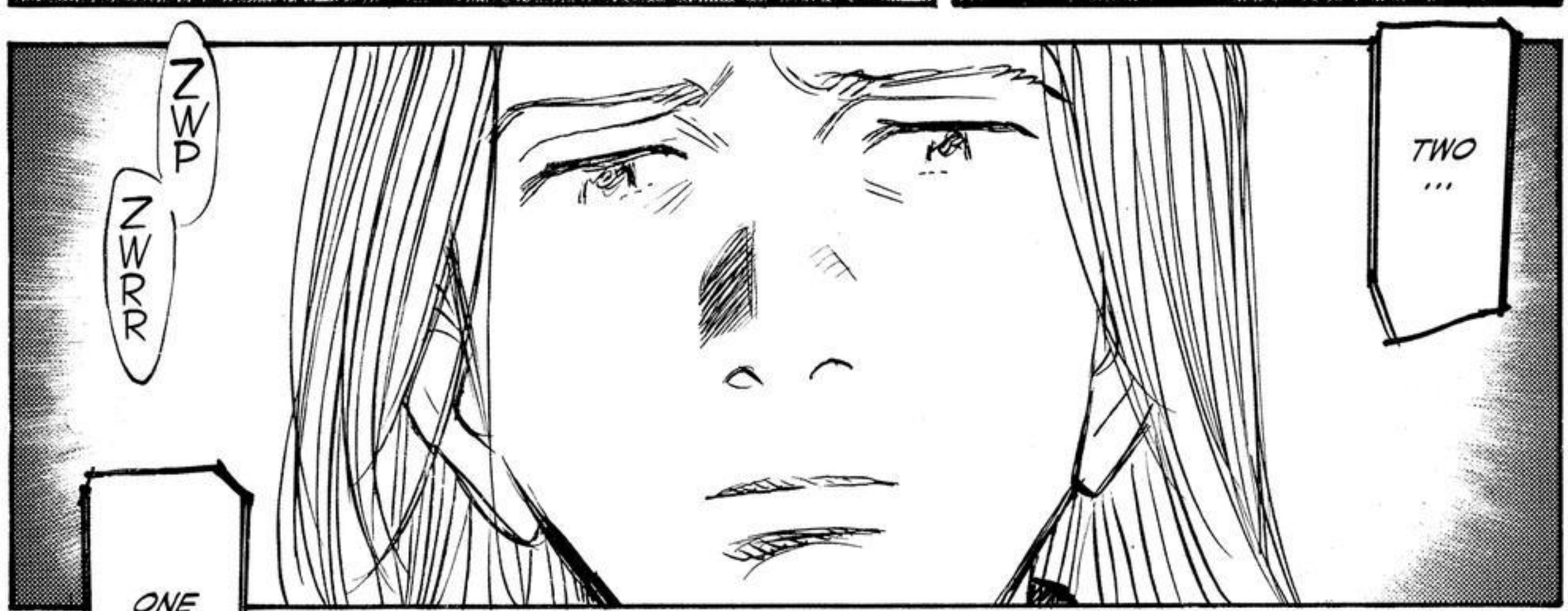
TIME'S UP! GET ON WITH IT!

SHUF
WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE KID, EPSILON.






FIVE ...
FOUR ...
THREE ...


ZWP
ZWRR
TWO ...
ONE ...

SHWWW

LOTS OF IMPORTANT PEOPLE FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES HAVE USED THIS PLACE IN EMERGENCIES.

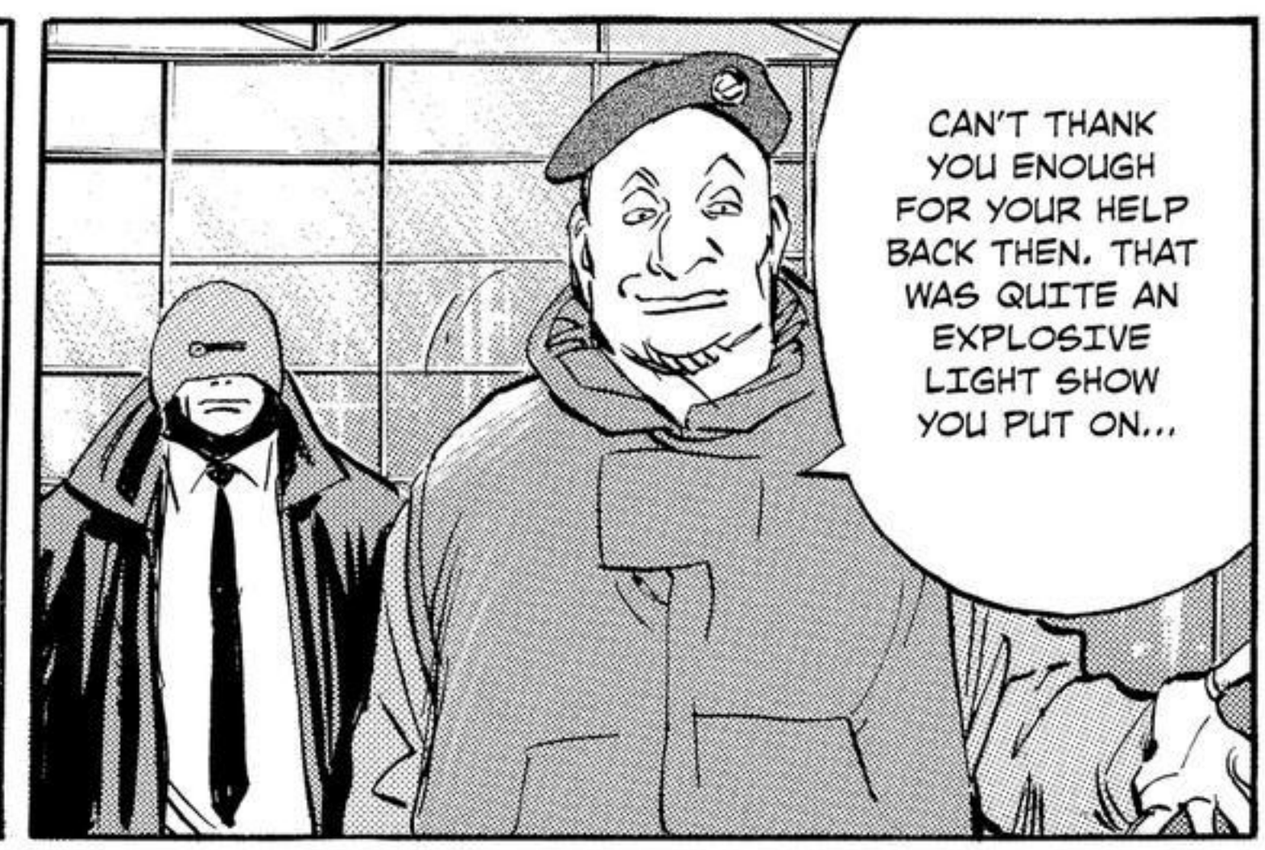
JUST THINK, YOU GET TO SPEND THREE MONTHS IN THE LAP OF LUXURY... FRANKLY, I'M JEALOUS.

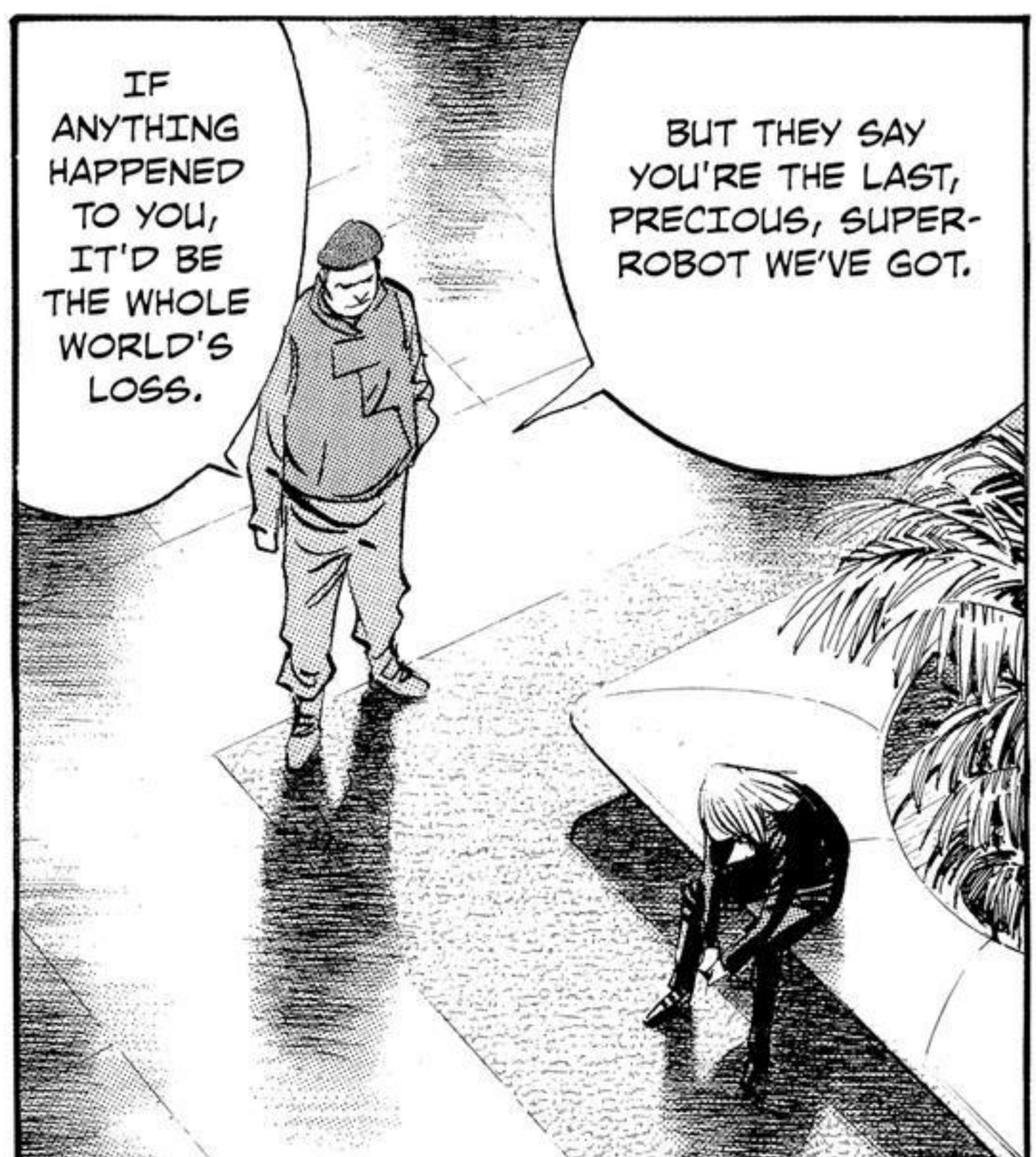
OF COURSE, I SUPPOSE YOU'RE PROBABLY JUST HAPPY TO BE LAPPING UP THIS SUNSHINE, AREN'T YOU?

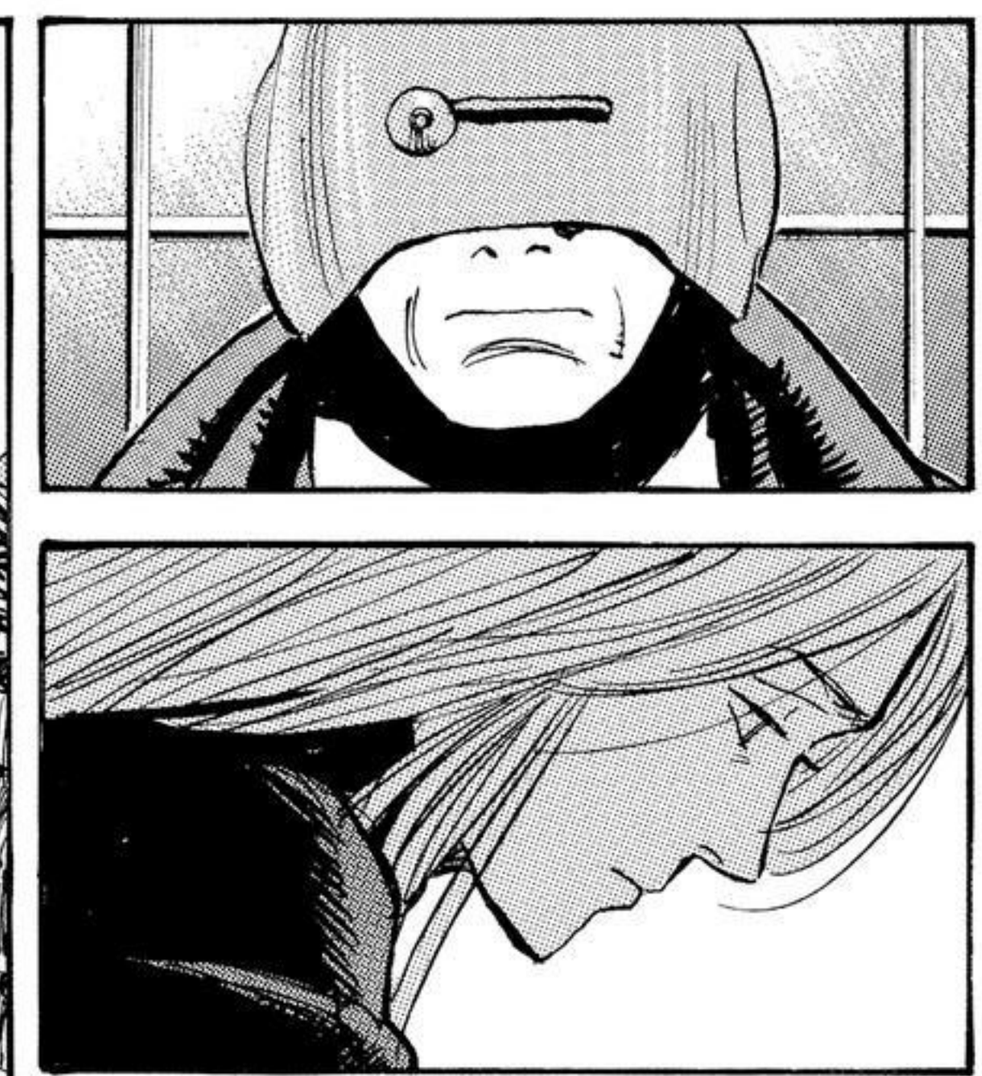
I'M NOW A FULL GENERAL, THOUGH.
YOU DO REMEMBER ME, DON'T YOU? SCOTT, FROM THE UN FORCES?

IT'S BEEN A WHILE, EH, EPSILON?

FRANKLY, THIS GUY'S GOT SO MUCH POWER, IT'S SILLY TO THINK WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE PROTECTING HIM.


CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR YOUR HELP BACK THEN. THAT WAS QUITE AN EXPLOSIVE LIGHT SHOW YOU PUT ON...


IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOU, IT'D BE THE WHOLE WORLD'S LOSS.
BUT THEY SAY YOU'RE THE LAST, PRECIOUS, SUPER-ROBOT WE'VE GOT.



...HE WAS APPARENTLY UP AGAINST A ROBOT NAMED PLUTO.

I'M SURE YOU'VE ALREADY HEARD, BUT ACCORDING TO THE DATA WE RETRIEVED FROM GESICHT AFTER HE WAS DESTROYED...

AND THIS SAHAD WAS BUILT IN PERSIA...

THEY SAY HIS AI WAS TAKEN FROM ANOTHER ROBOT CALLED ***SAHAD.***

AND THEY SAY THIS PLUTO CHARACTER HAS THE POWER TO CONTROL THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT-- HE CAN EVEN CREATE POWERFUL TORNADOES.

SO WHAT ABOUT ***BORA,*** GENERAL?

IT SEEMS THAT DURING THE CENTRAL ASIAN WAR SAHAD HAD DEVELOPED A BURNING HATRED FOR THE WEST.

...AND ALL THE ROBOT CARCASSES I DESTROYED?

WHAT'S THE CONNECTION BETWEEN BORA...

I KNOW THAT THE GROUP UNCOVERED THAT ROBOT GRAVEYARD, AND THAT SOMETHING'S BEEN KILLING ITS MEMBERS, ONE AFTER ANOTHER...

WHAT WAS THE BORA SURVEY GROUP REALLY ABOUT, ANYWAY?

CONNEC-TION...?

PLUTO POSSESSES A TERRIFYING POWER...

...

...

YOUR LIFE IS IN DANGER TOO!

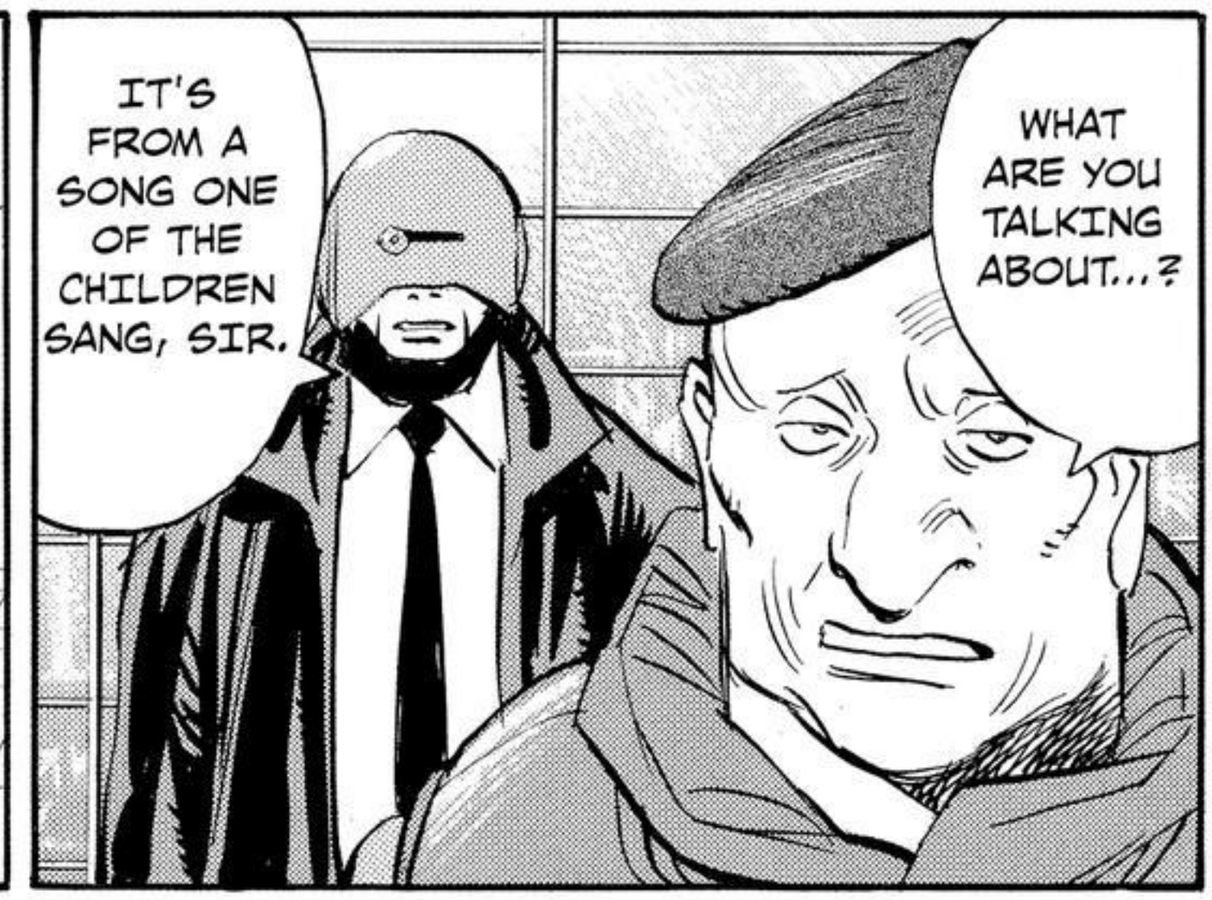
THERE'S NO POINT IN HIDING ANYTHING FROM ME, GENERAL!

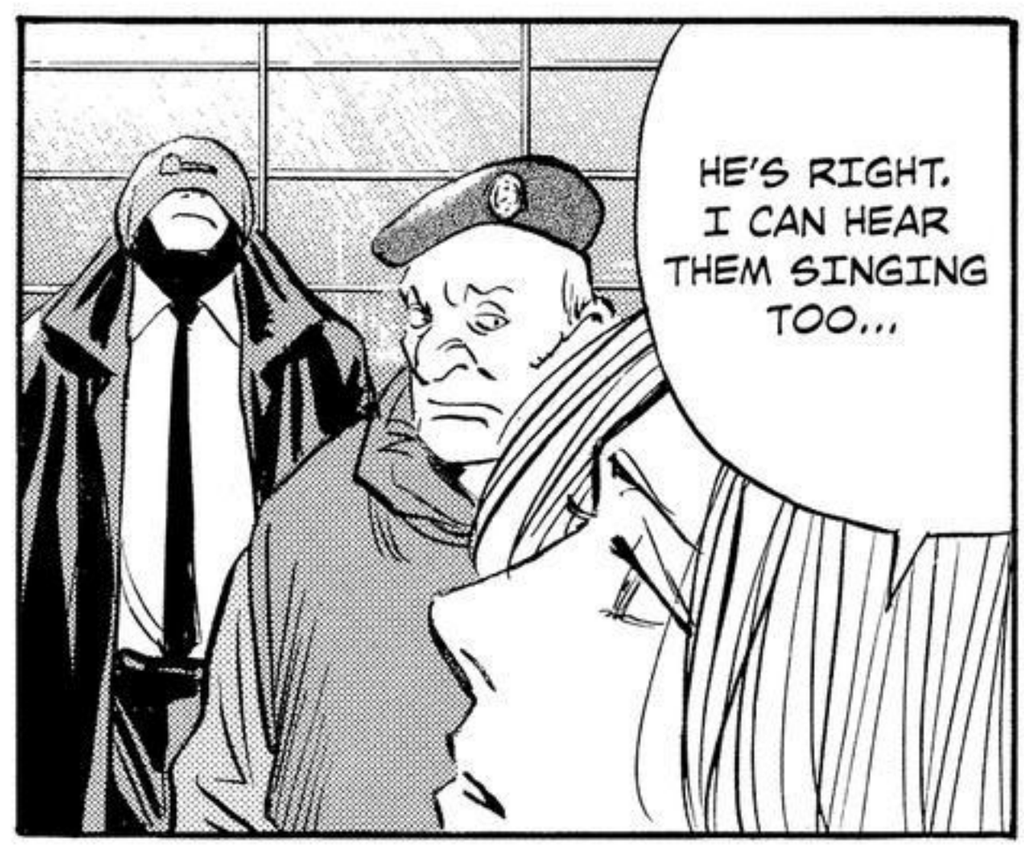
THAT AI, GENERAL...

AND THAT'S THE AI THAT CONTROLS HIM...

BUT THERE'S SOMETHING EVEN MORE POWERFUL EVOLVING BEHIND PLUTO...

...WILL EAT THE EARTH...





THE GIANT MADE THE RAINS COME DOWN AND BROUGHT A TERRIBLE FLOOD... ♬

THE GIANT MADE THE FIRE RIVERS RUN, HE PUSHED THE GLACIERS INTO THE OCEAN... ♬

AND SLURPED UP ALL THE RAIN... ♬

THEN THE GIANT ATE THE FIRE, GOBBLED UP THE GLACIERS... ♬

HEY, WASSILY. EVERYBODY *LOVES* YOUR SONG!!

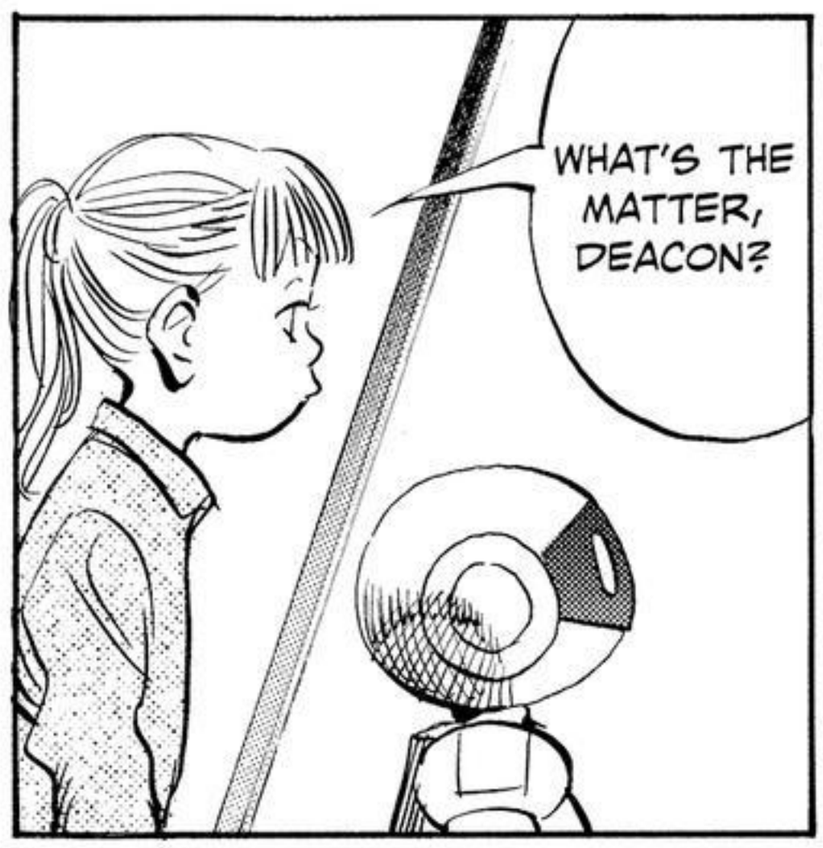
BORA♫

BORA♫

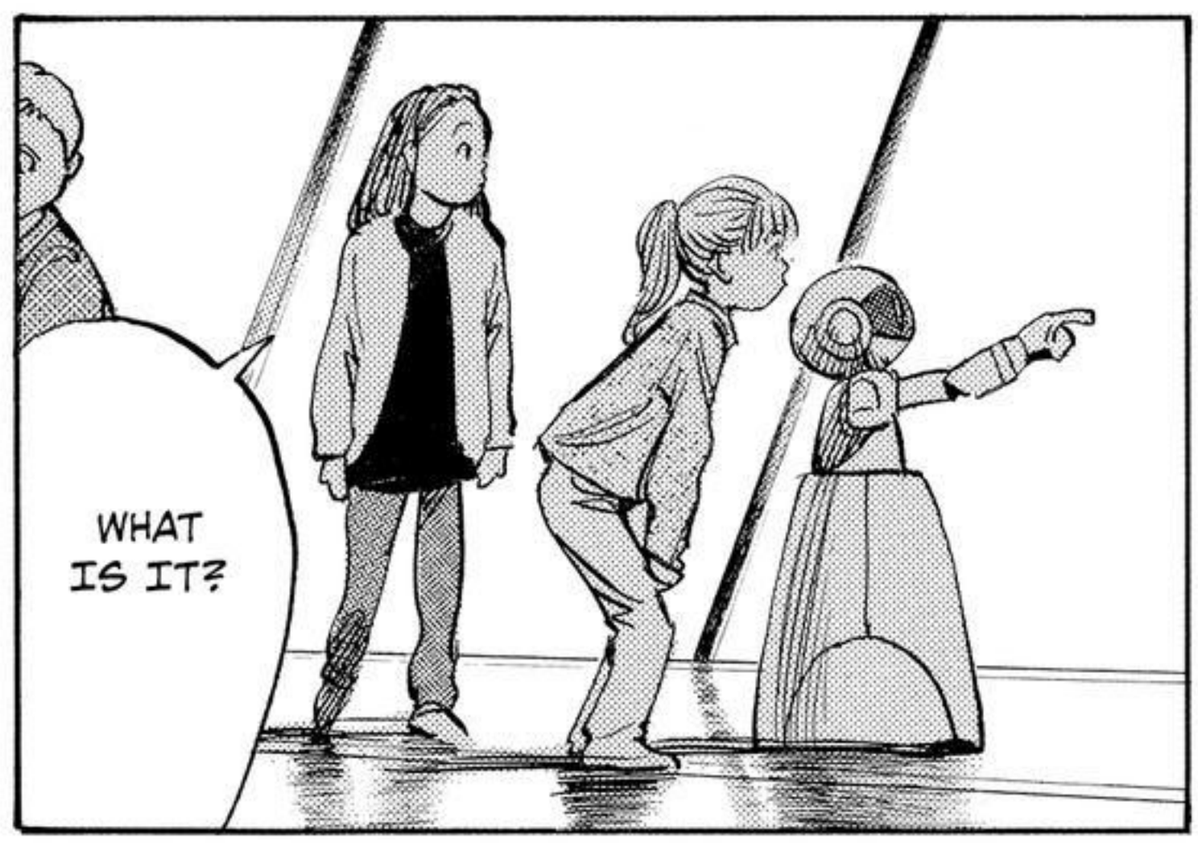
WHA HA HA HA!!

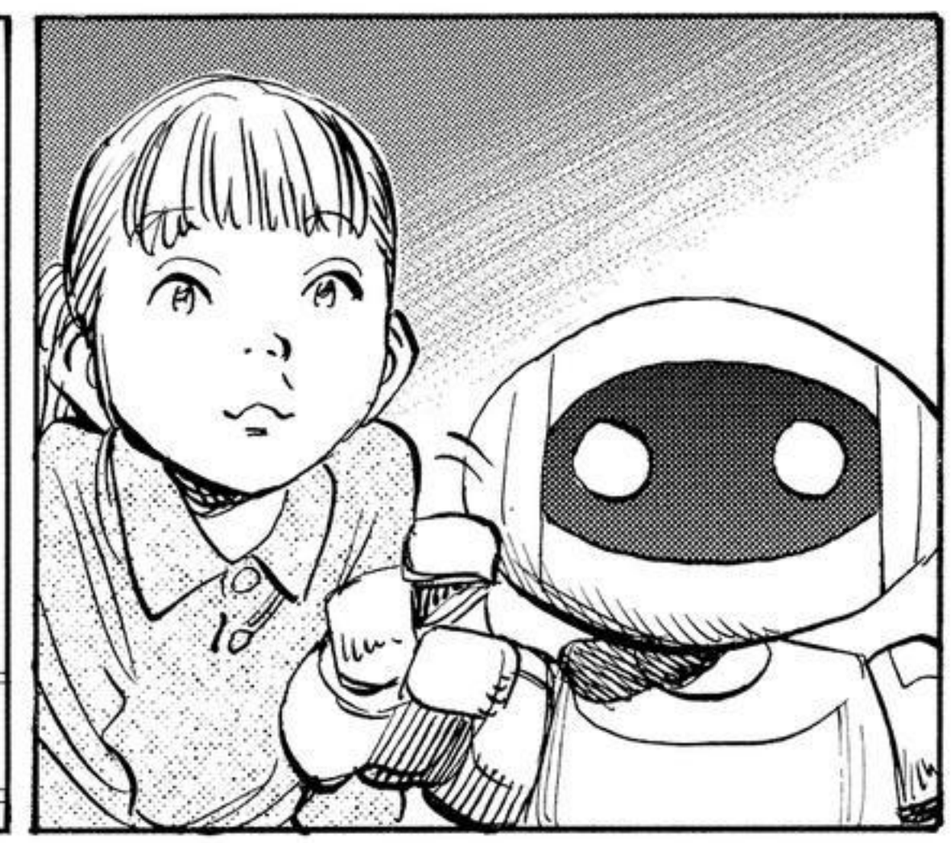
BORA♫

AND HE ATE UP THE WHOLE EARTH... ♬


WHAT'S THE MATTER, DEACON?

THE GIANT MADE THE FIRE RIVERS RUN...
♬


WHAT IS IT?



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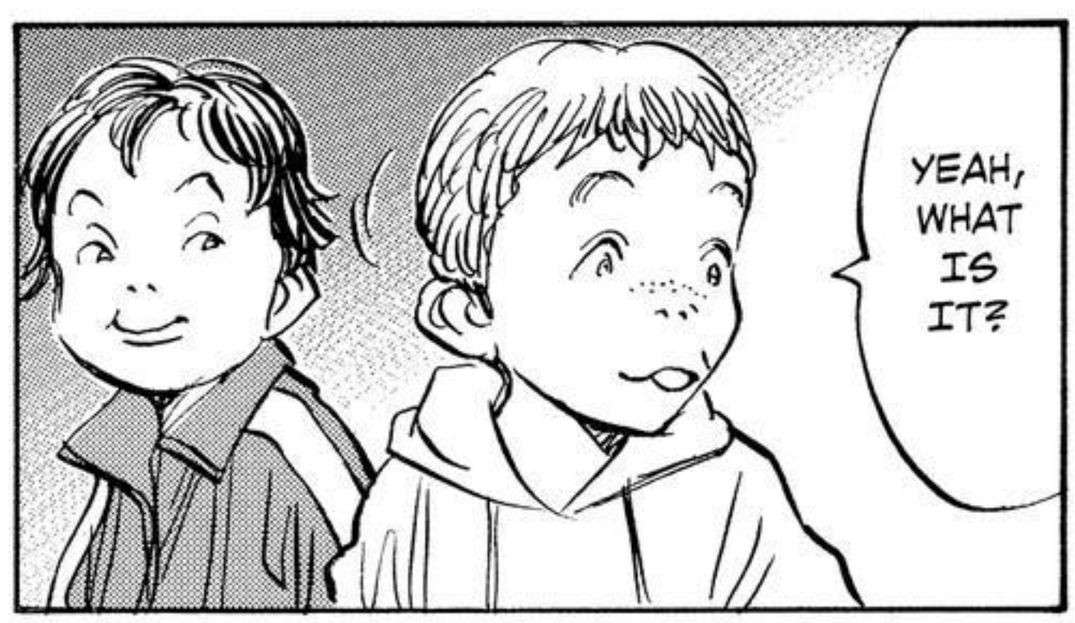
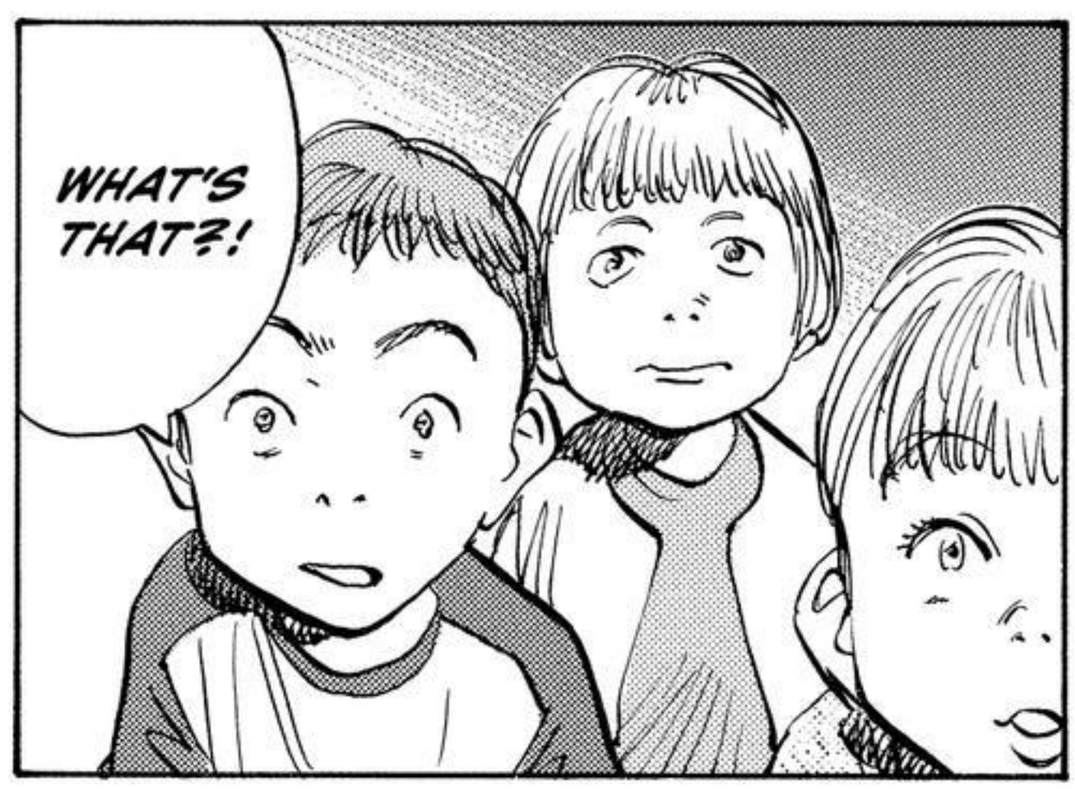

YEAH, WHAT IS IT?


WHAT'S THAT?!

EPSILON!

WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S GOING ON?!

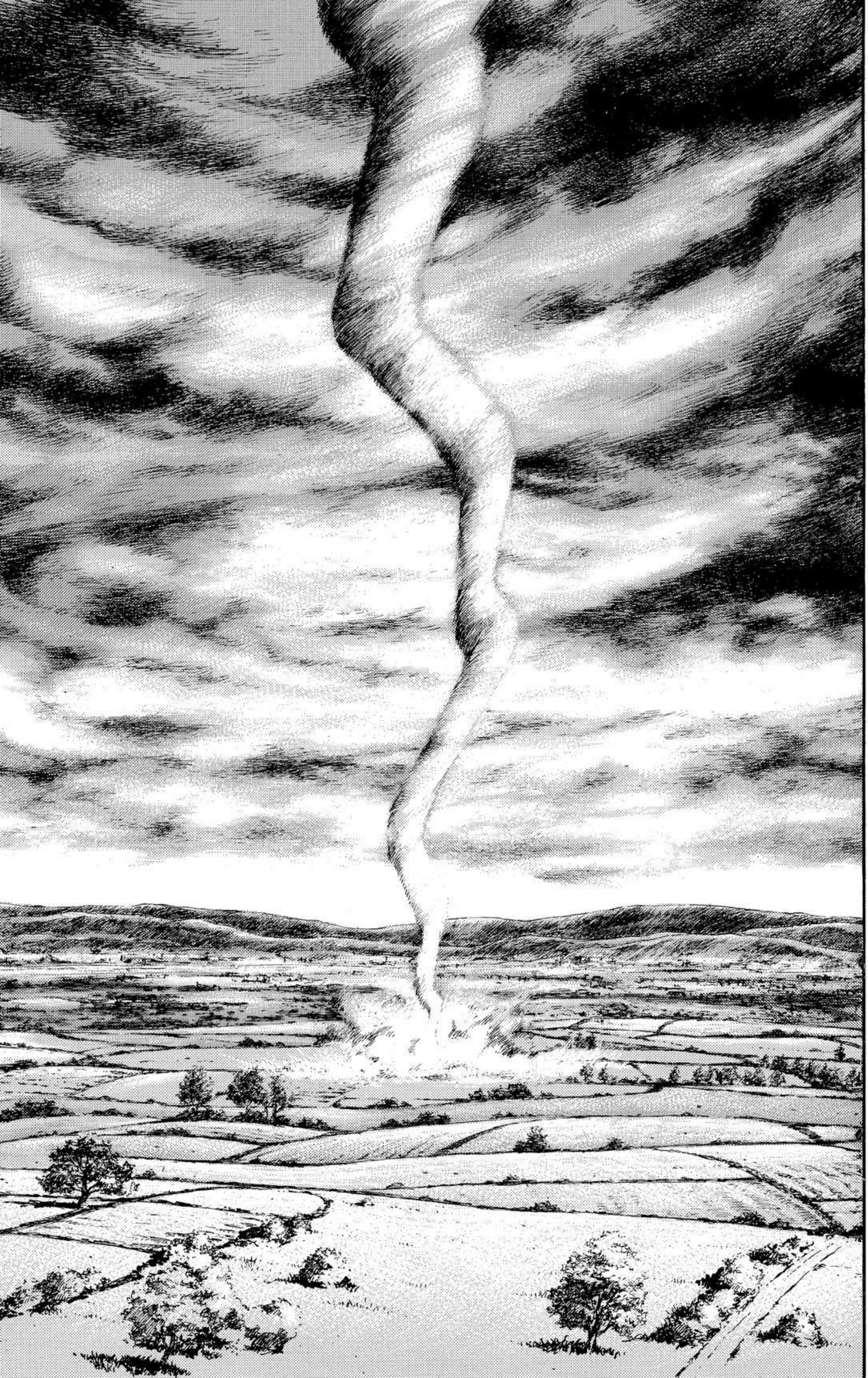
I'VE GOT TO GO BACK TO AUSTRALIA, NOW!!

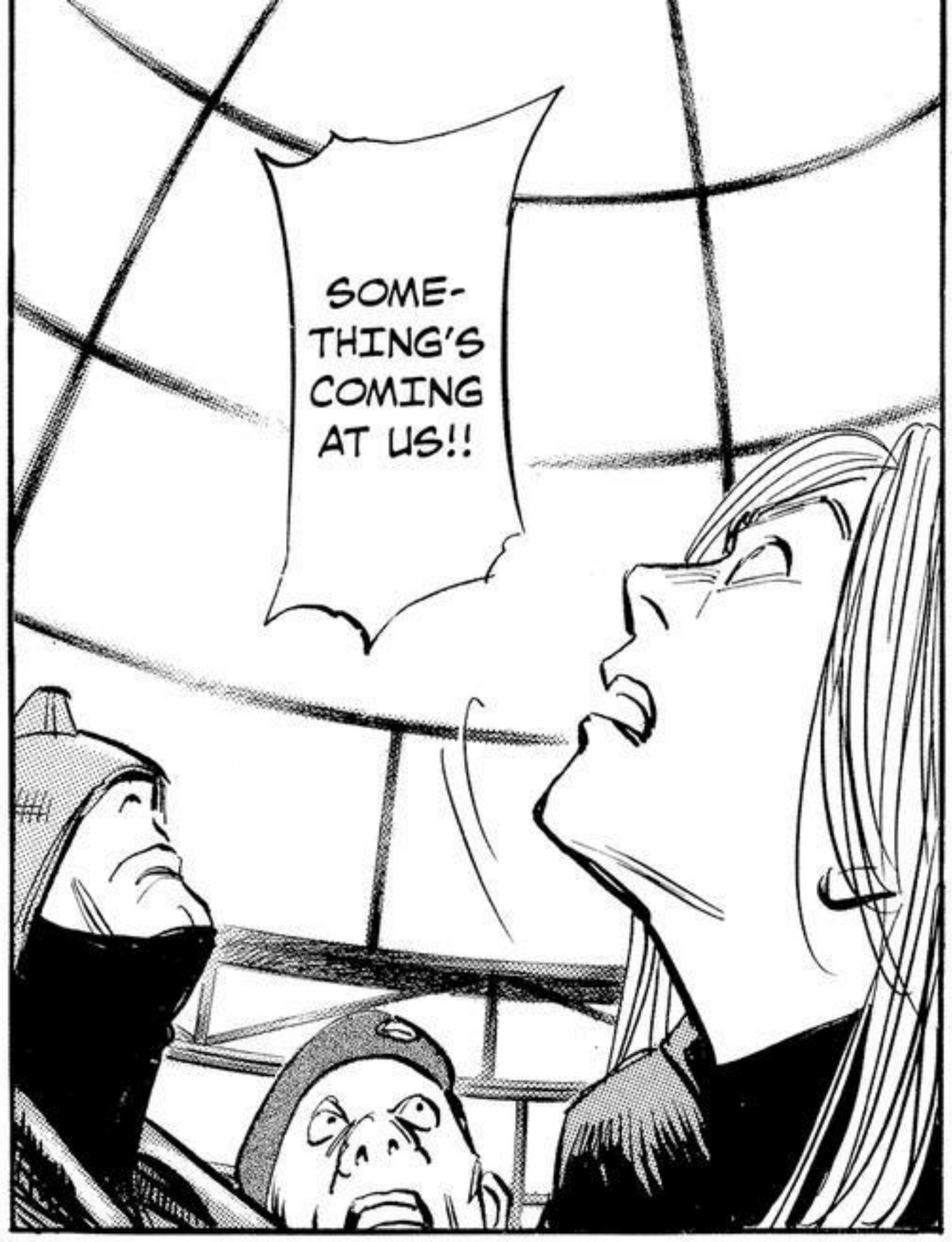
WHAT THE--?!

NO! THEY'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF THERE!!

WOW...

THAT'S *AMAZING* ...




SOME-
THING'S
COMING
AT US!!

THEY'VE
GOT TO
GET AWAY
FROM
THERE!!

THERE'S
SOME-
THING
ABOVE
US TOO!!

SKREE

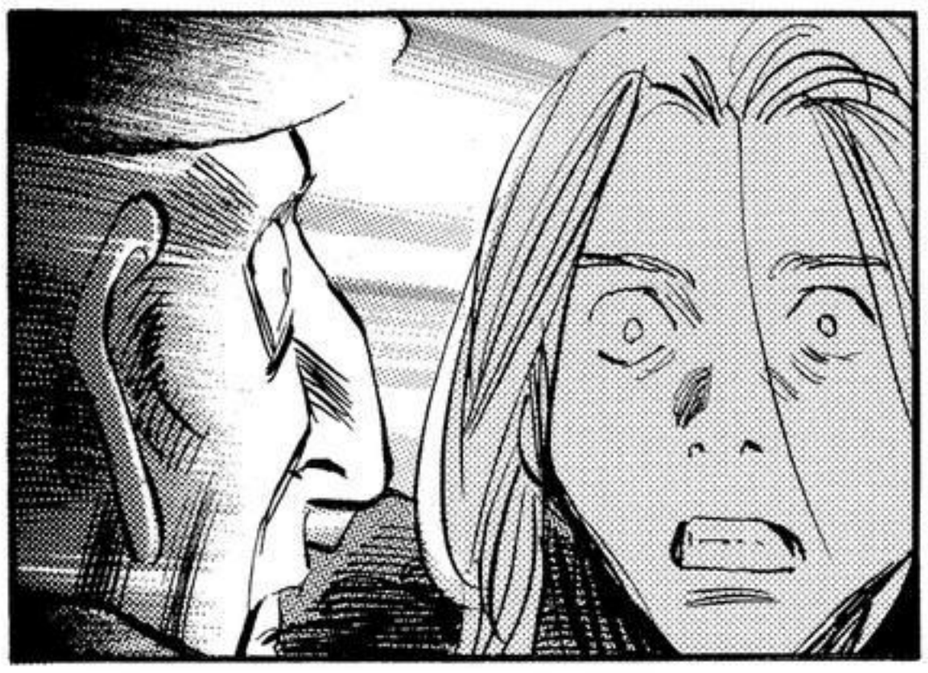
IT'S RIGHT ABOVE THE SAFE HOUSE!
GENERAL! YOU AND YOUR MEN HAVE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE IMMEDIATELY!!
SCREEEE
Act 51 TWO SUNS

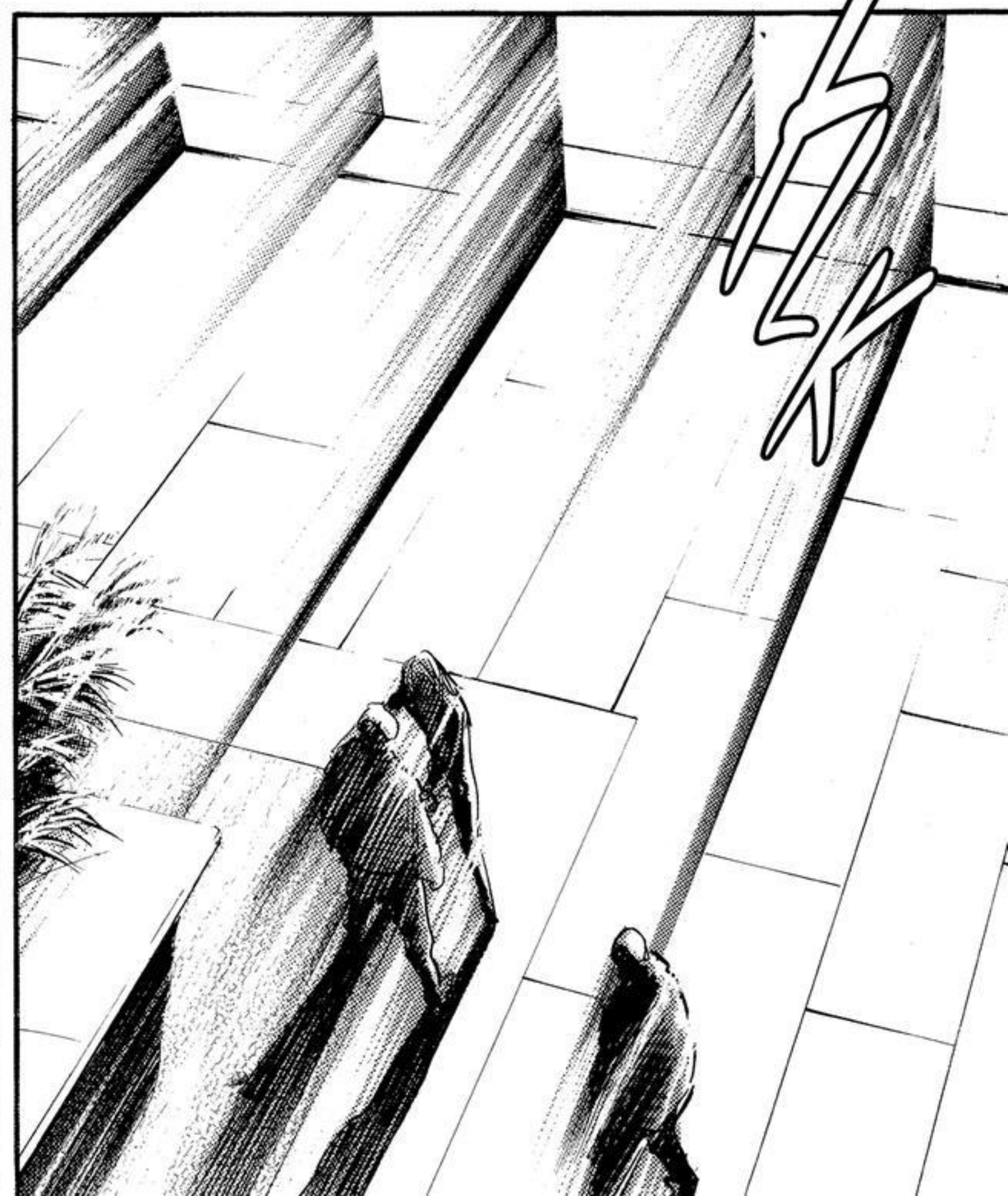
WE'RE *MILITARY* MEN, DIFFERENT FROM YOU. RUNNING AWAY ISN'T AN OPTION.

GET OUT OF HERE?

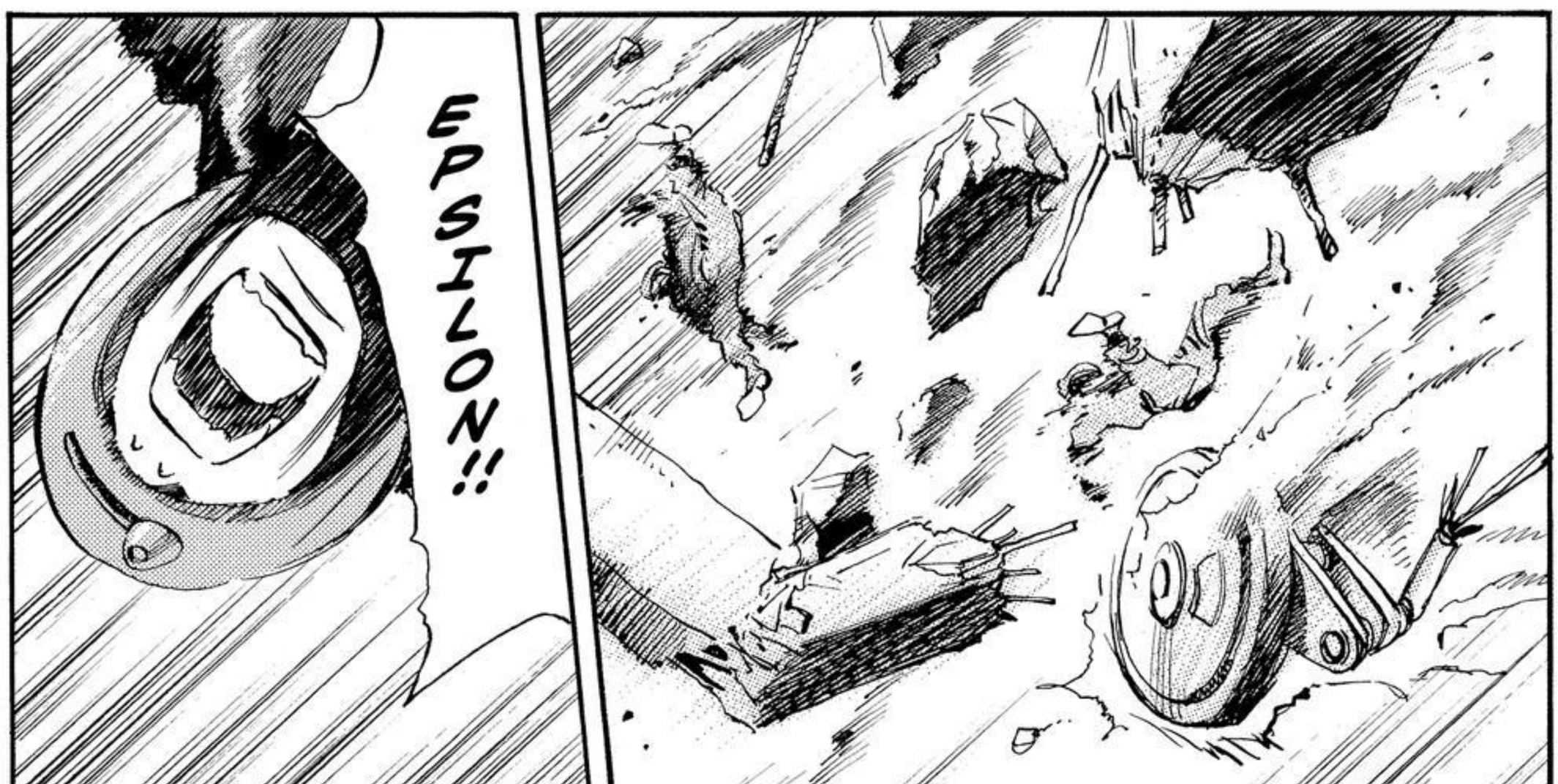
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, EPSILON? THE DEFENSE SYSTEMS HERE CAN RESPOND TO ANY KIND OF THREAT, INSTANTLY.

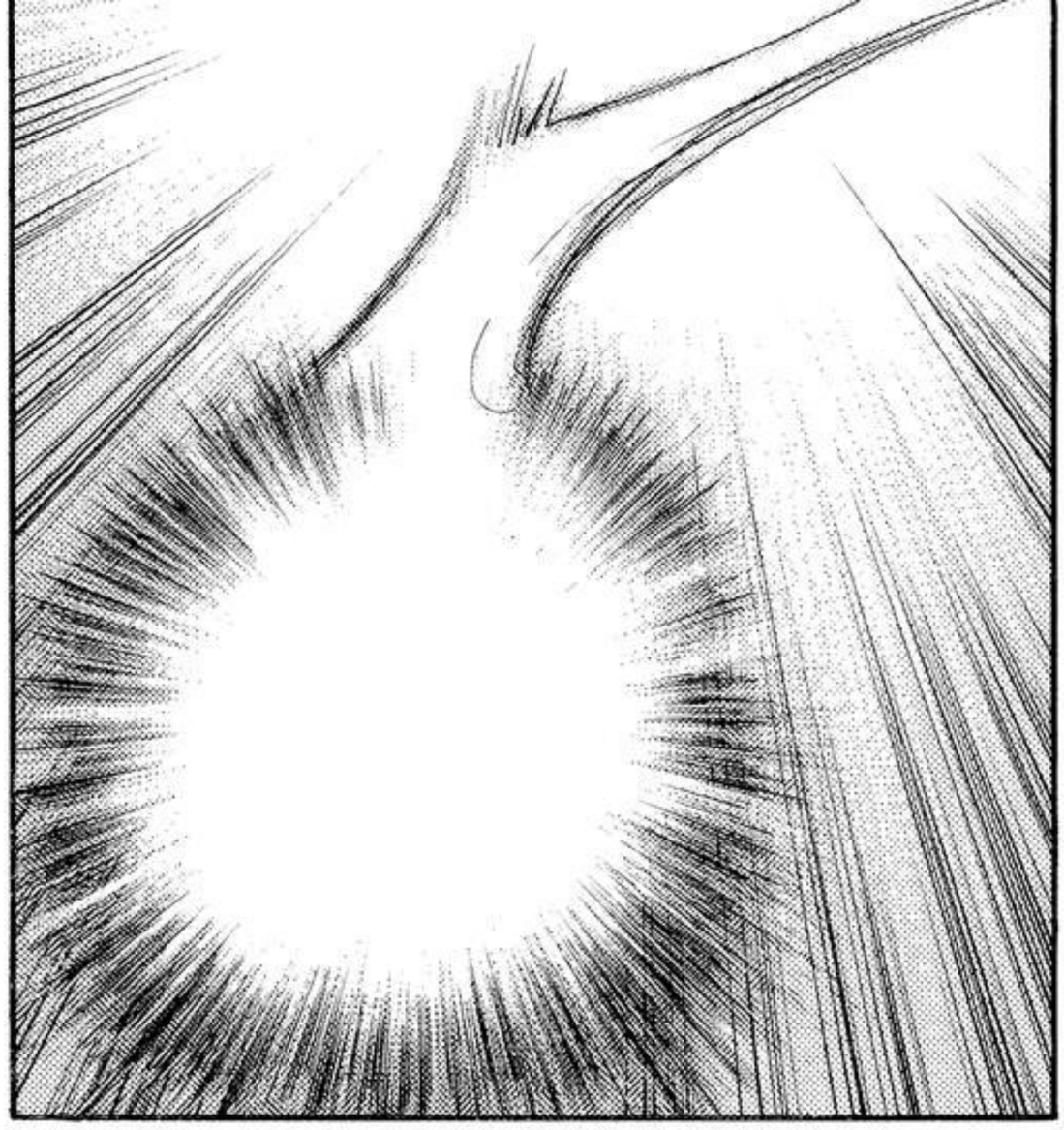
NO, GENERAL! YOU HAVE TO GET OUT OF--!!





HIGH

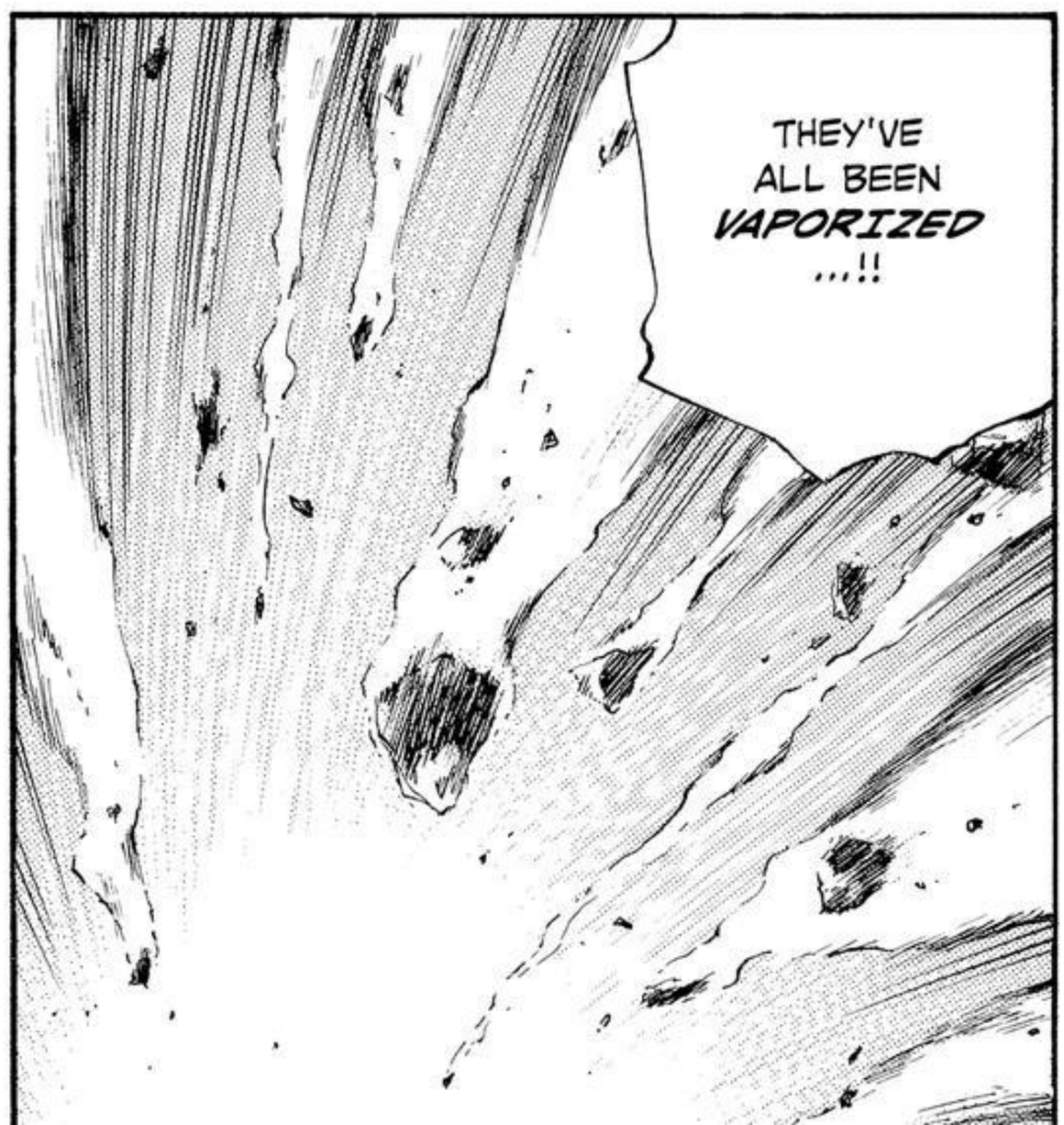

EPSILON!!

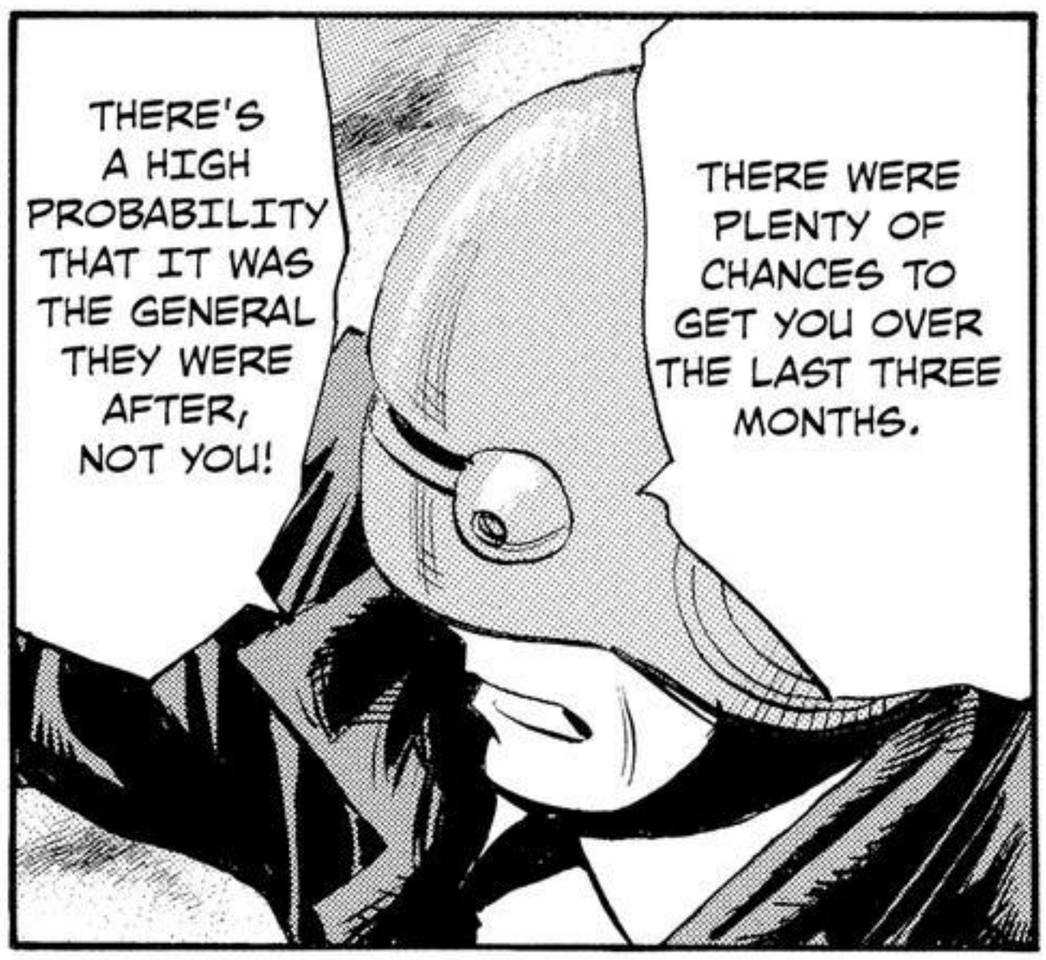


SHIIIAP

EPSILON! DO YOU READ ME?!

IT'S TOO LATE!!
WE'VE GOT TO SAVE SCOTT AND HIS MEN!

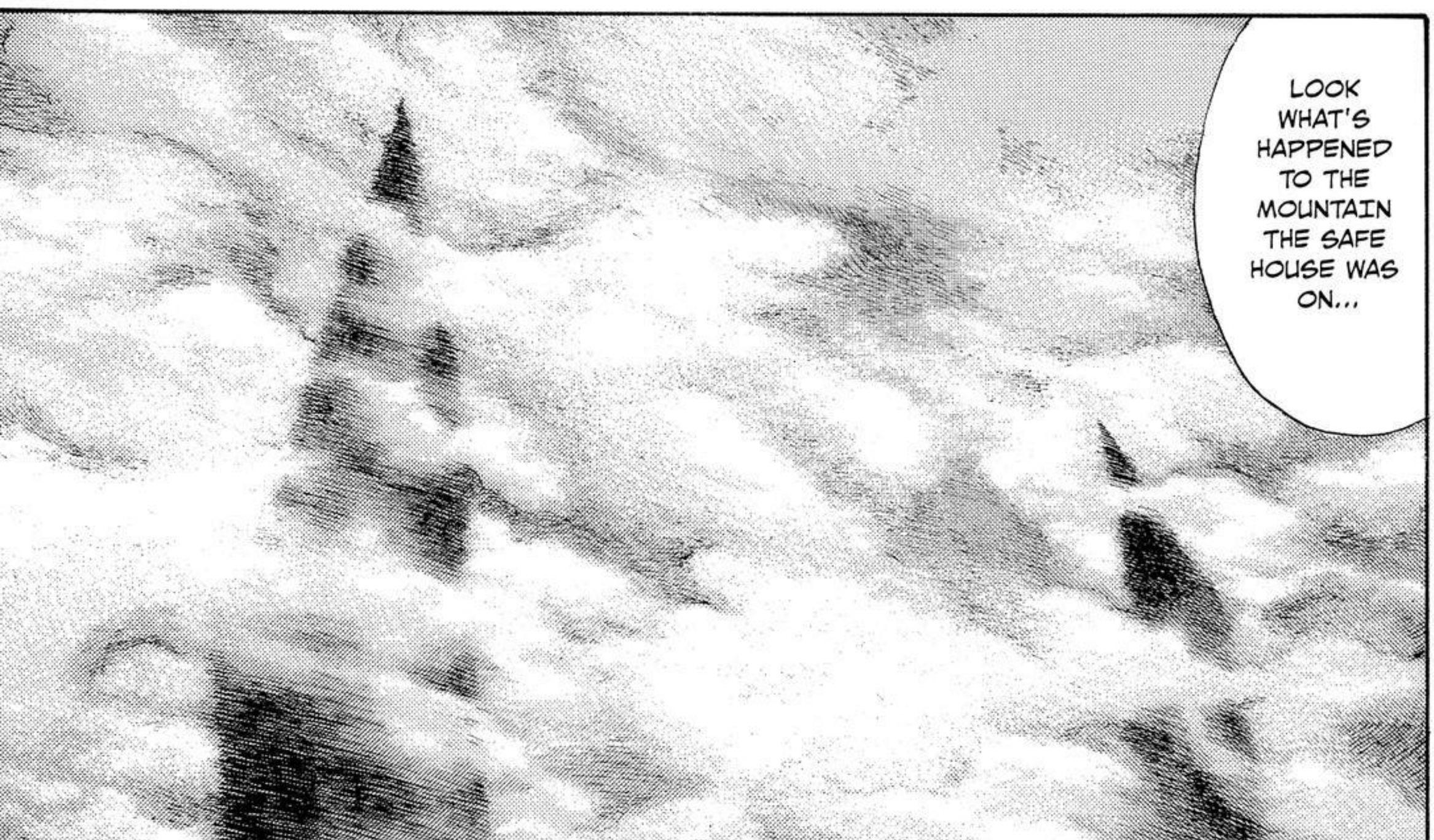

THEY'VE ALL BEEN *VAPORIZED* ...!!

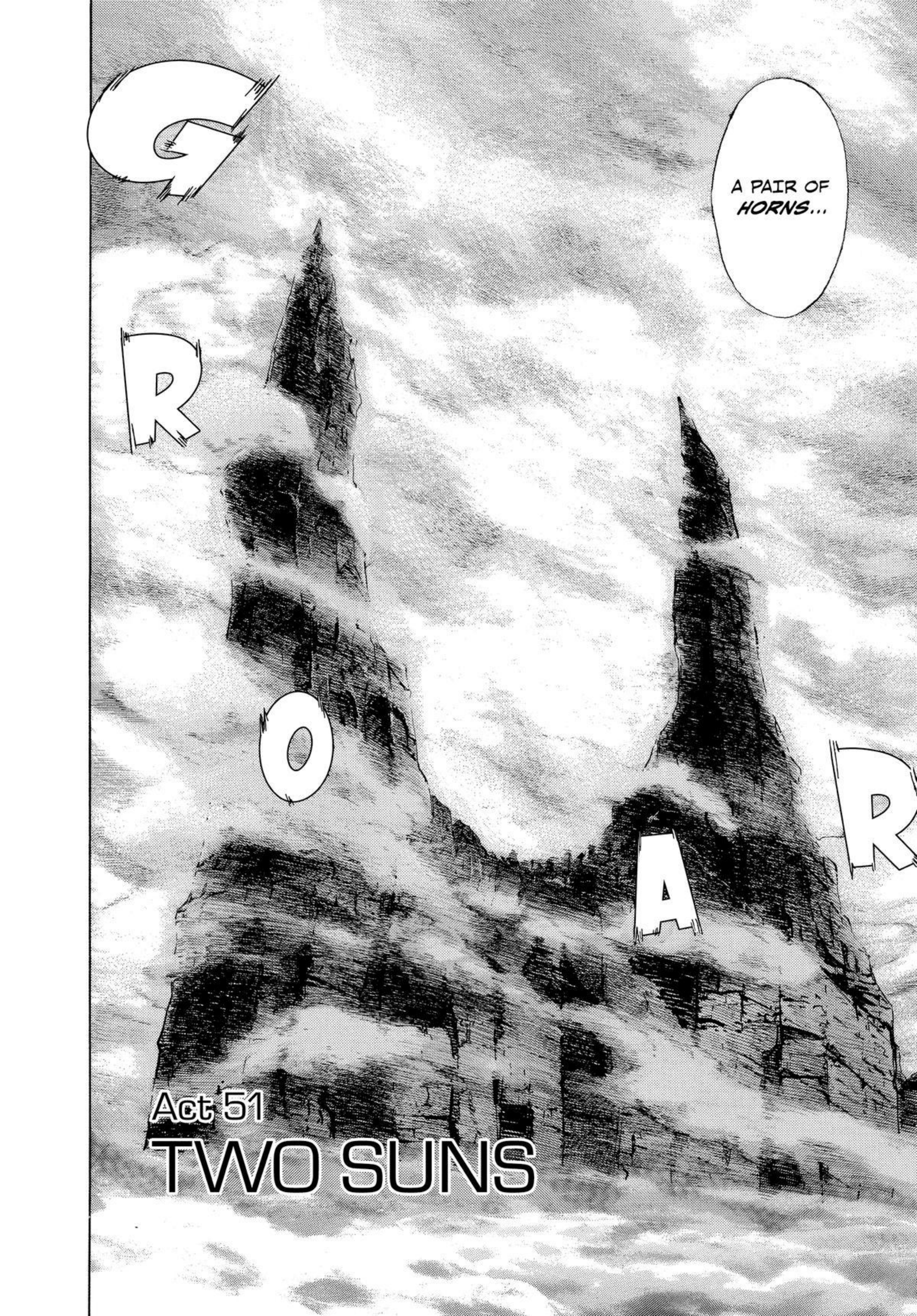

THERE'S A HIGH PROBABILITY THAT IT WAS THE GENERAL THEY WERE AFTER, NOT YOU!
THERE WERE PLENTY OF CHANCES TO GET YOU OVER THE LAST THREE MONTHS.

YOU'RE WRONG!
THEY... THEY WERE KILLED BECAUSE OF *ME*!

SEE FOR YOURSELF, EPSILON!
YOU MEAN THIS WAS ANOTHER BORA SURVEY MEMBER ASSASSINATION...?

...

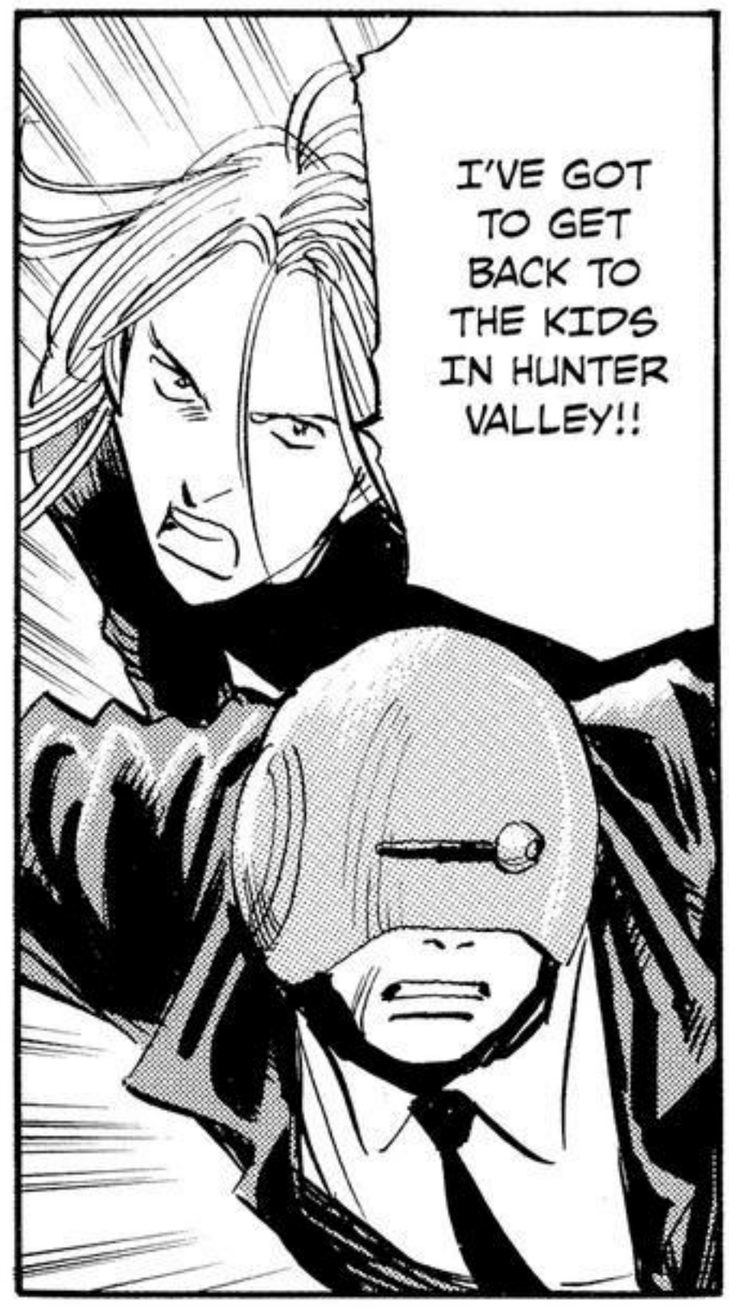

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE MOUNTAIN THE SAFE HOUSE WAS ON...



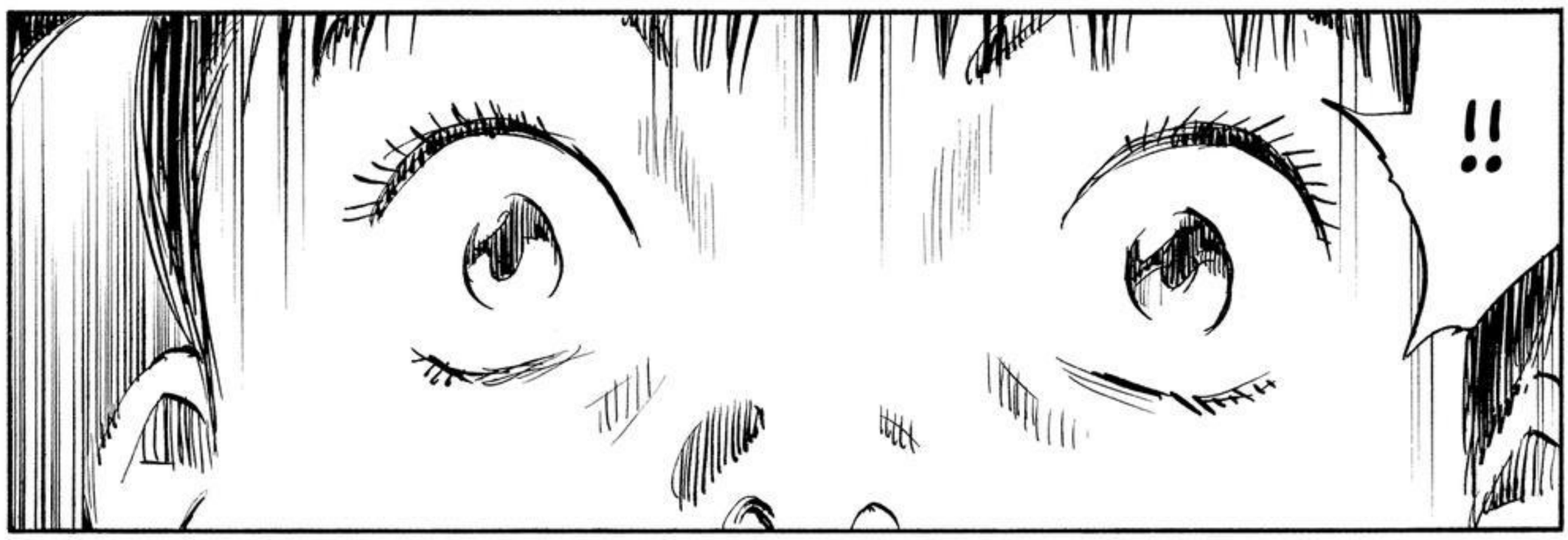
Act 51

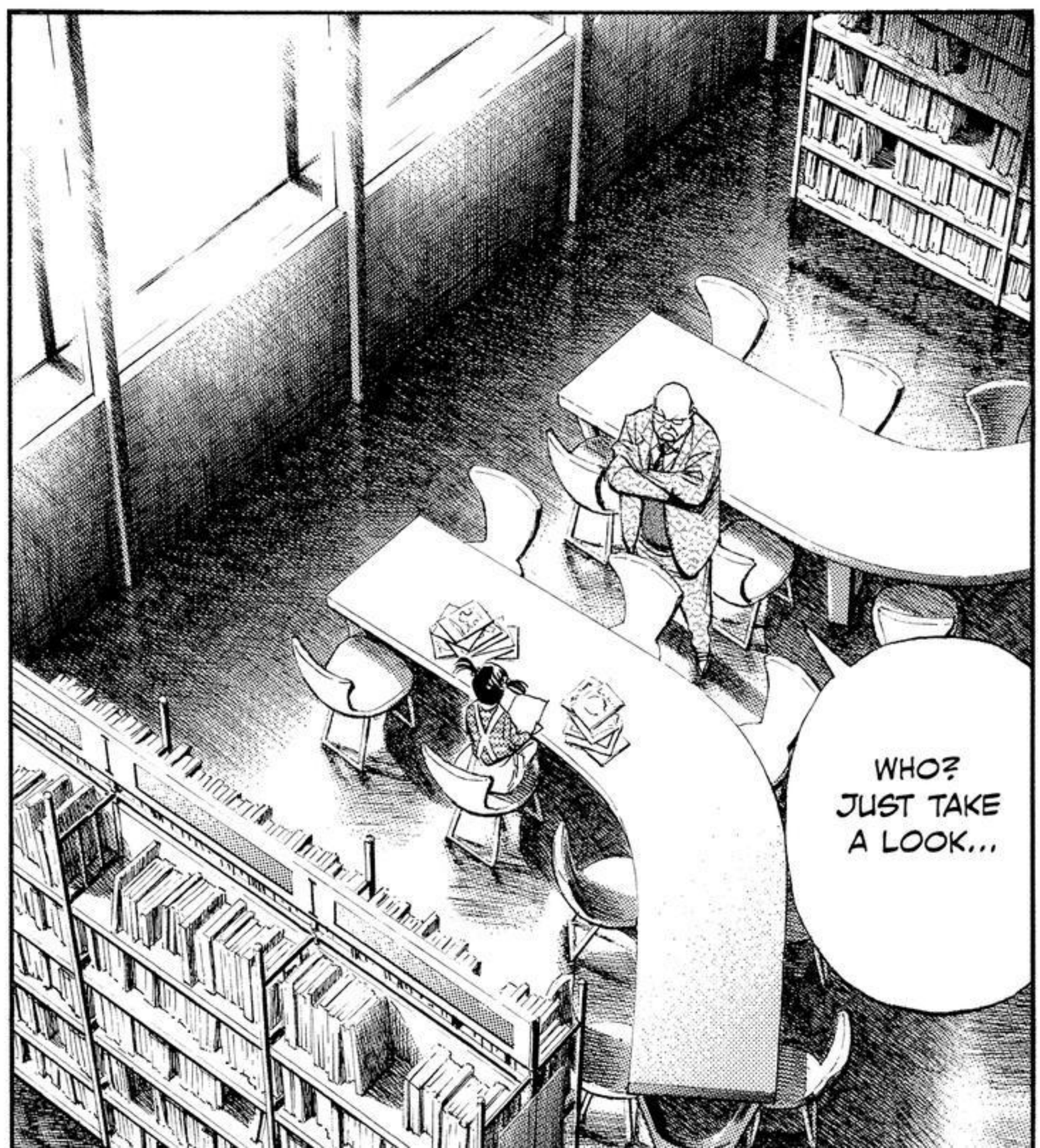
TWO SUNS

SUCH DESTRUCTIVE POWER... WHAT KIND OF WEAPON COULD CAUSE THIS...



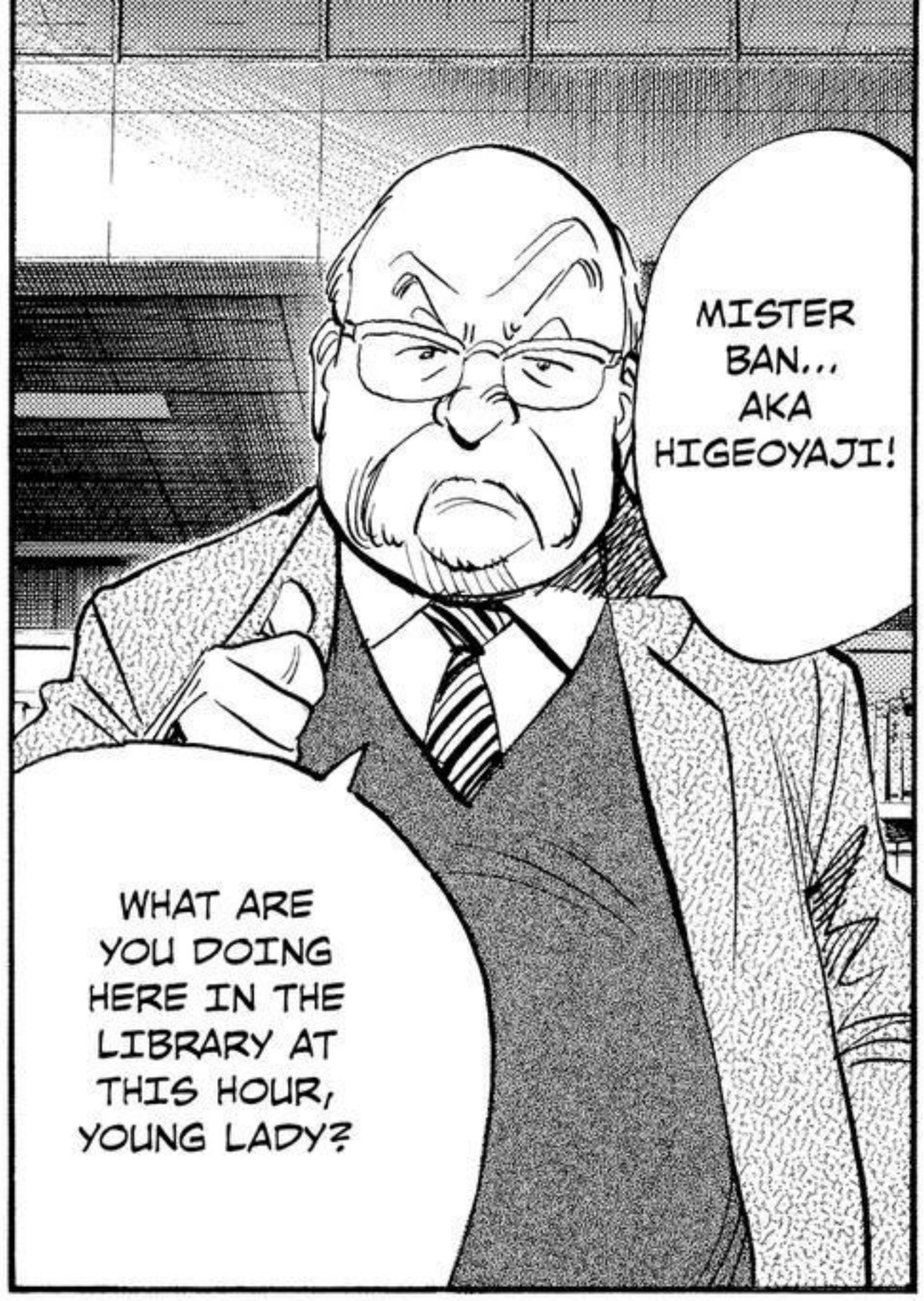
I SENSE THAT IT'S BEING MANIPULATED BY SOMETHING... LIKE A PUPPET...

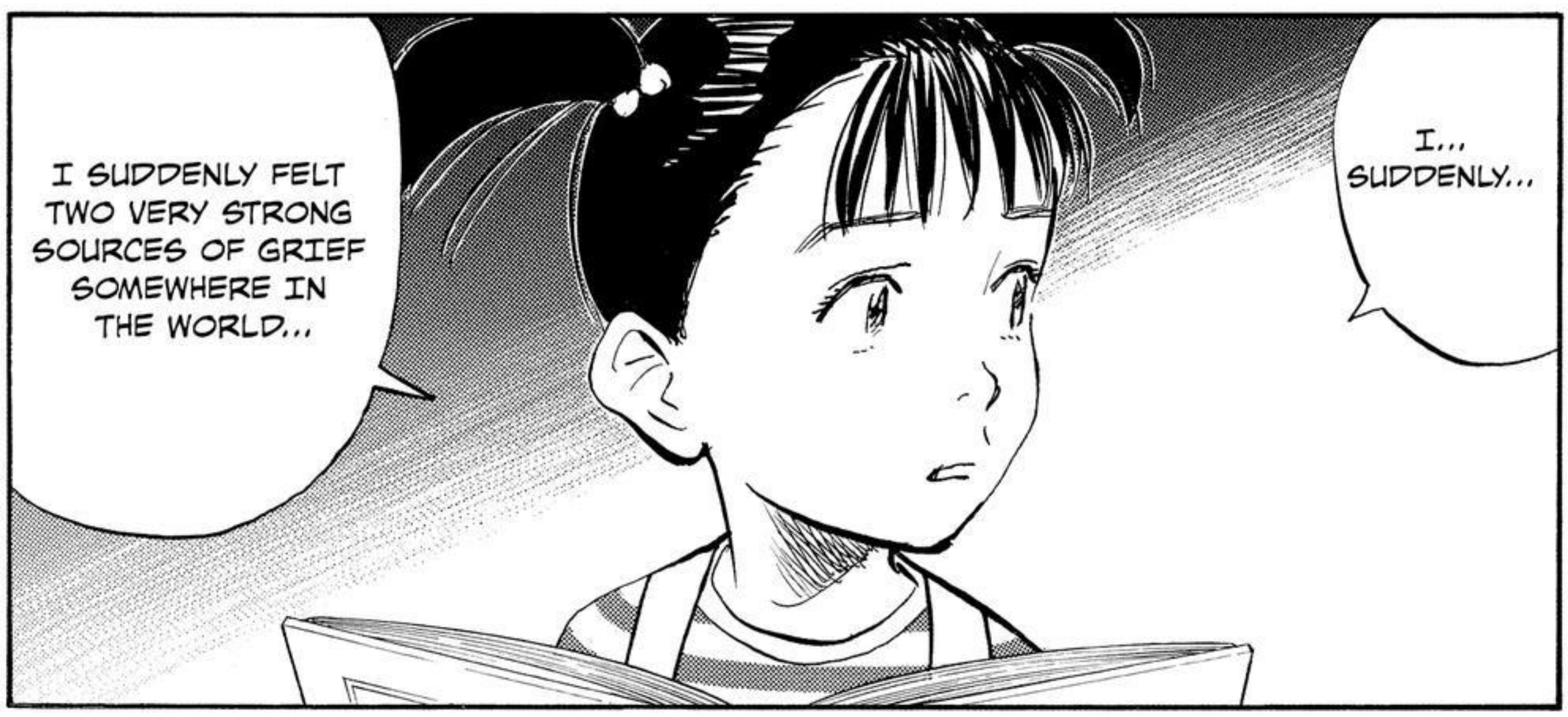


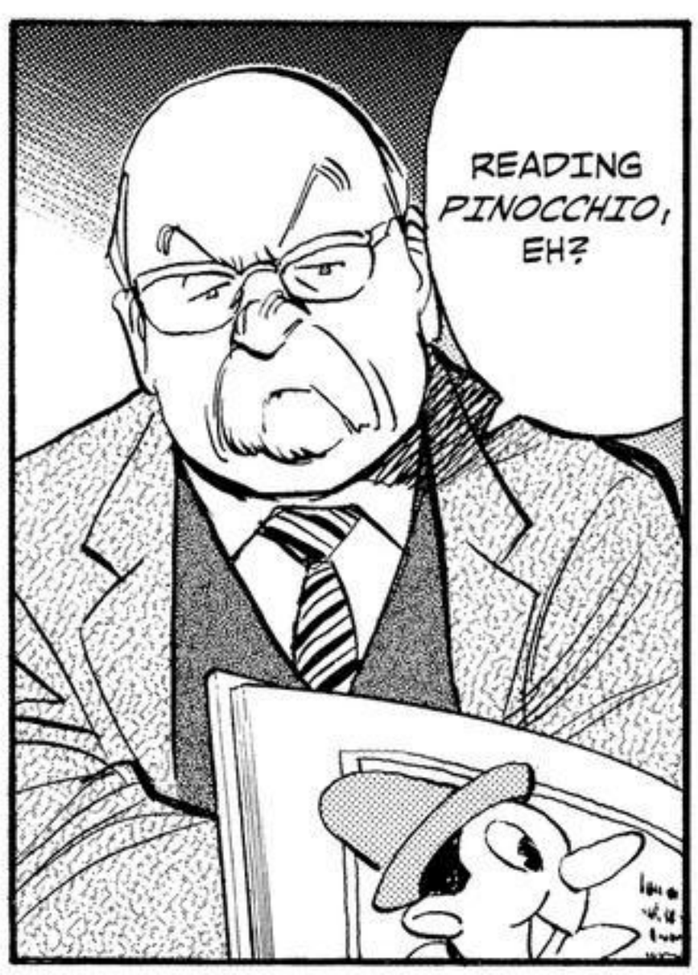


PRINCIPAL BAN...

UM, WELL, YOU SEE...
I'M LISTENING ...


MISTER BAN... AKA HIGEOYAJI!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE IN THE LIBRARY AT THIS HOUR, YOUNG LADY?


I SUDDENLY FELT TWO VERY STRONG SOURCES OF GRIEF SOMEWHERE IN THE WORLD...
I... SUDDENLY...


READING PINOCCHIO, EH?

ピノキオ
Pinocchio

...

BUT YOU, URAN...

PINOCCHIO STRUGGLED TO LEARN ABOUT THE HUMAN HEART ...

Y- YOU'RE CRYING, SIR...

YOU HAVE MORE HEART THAN MOST HUMANS...

WHY ARE YOU CRYING, SIR?

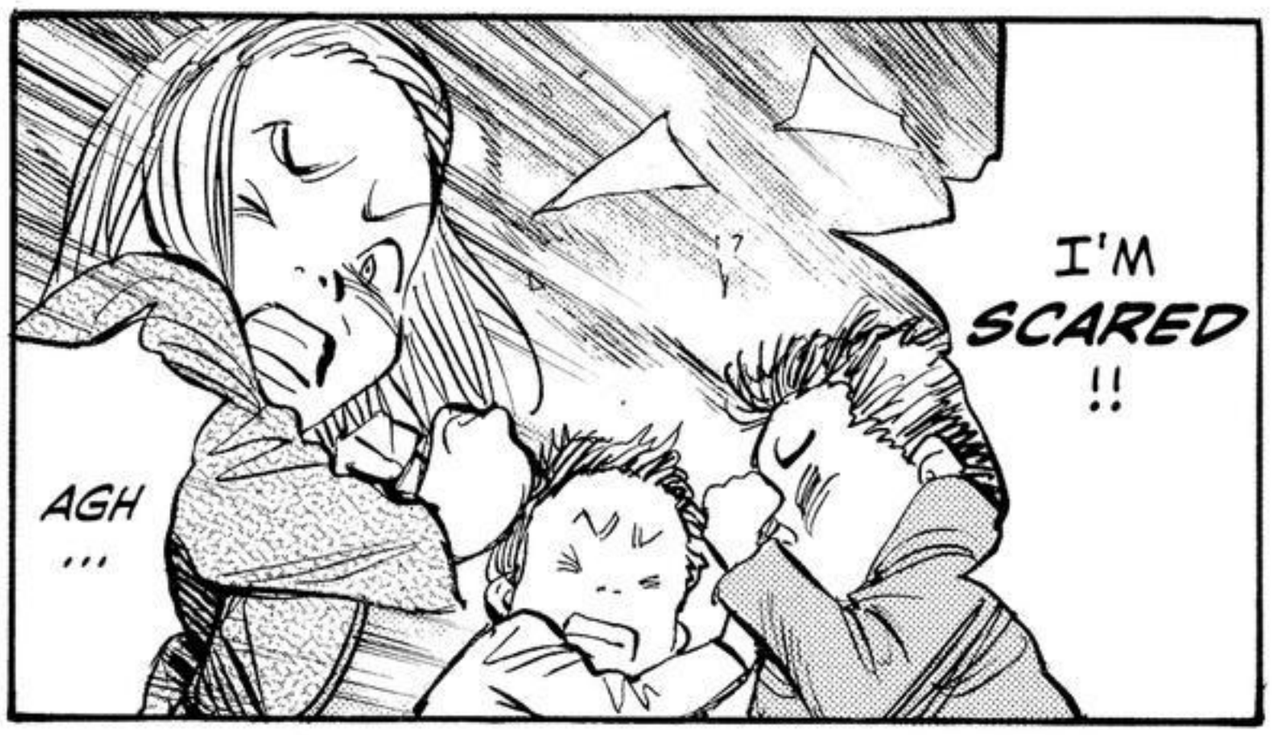
TELL ME... WHAT'S WRONG?

GRORA

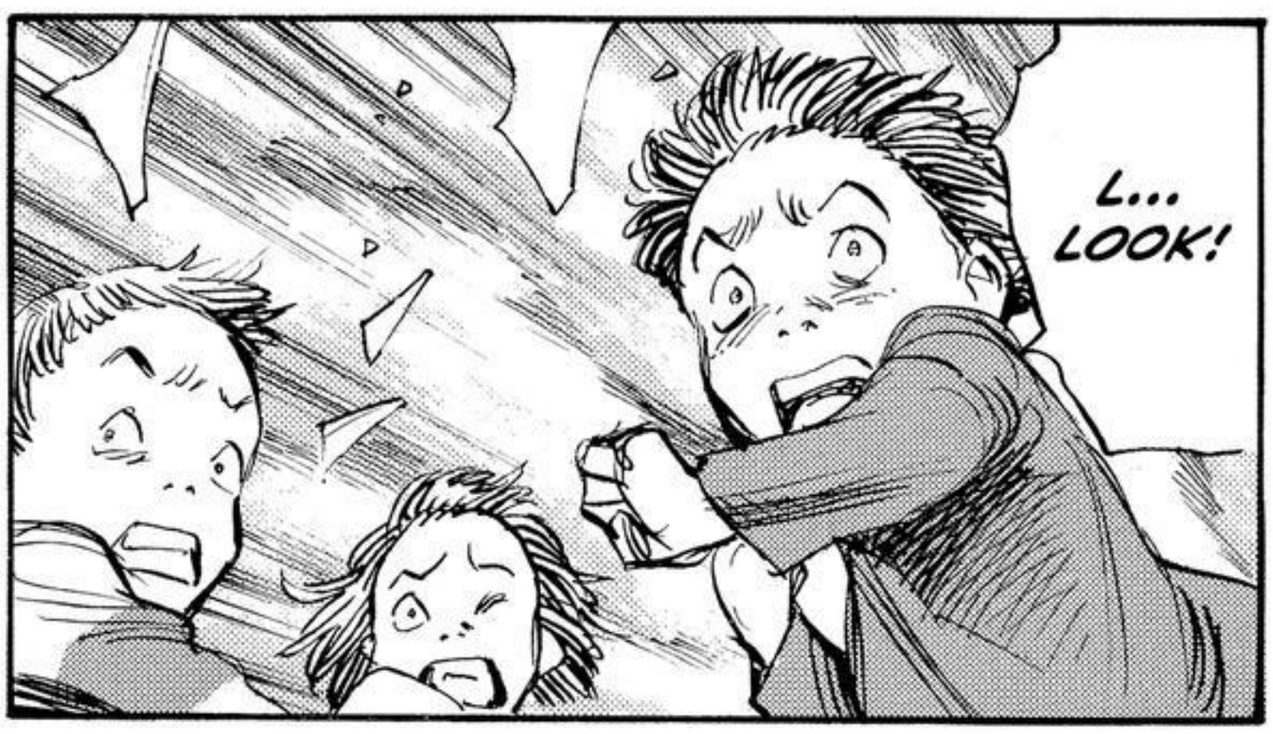
W... WE'LL BE OKAY IF WE HIDE IN THE HOUSE...
MAYBE WE'D BETTER RUN.
IT'S COMING THIS WAY.
W... WOW...

AIEEEEE!!

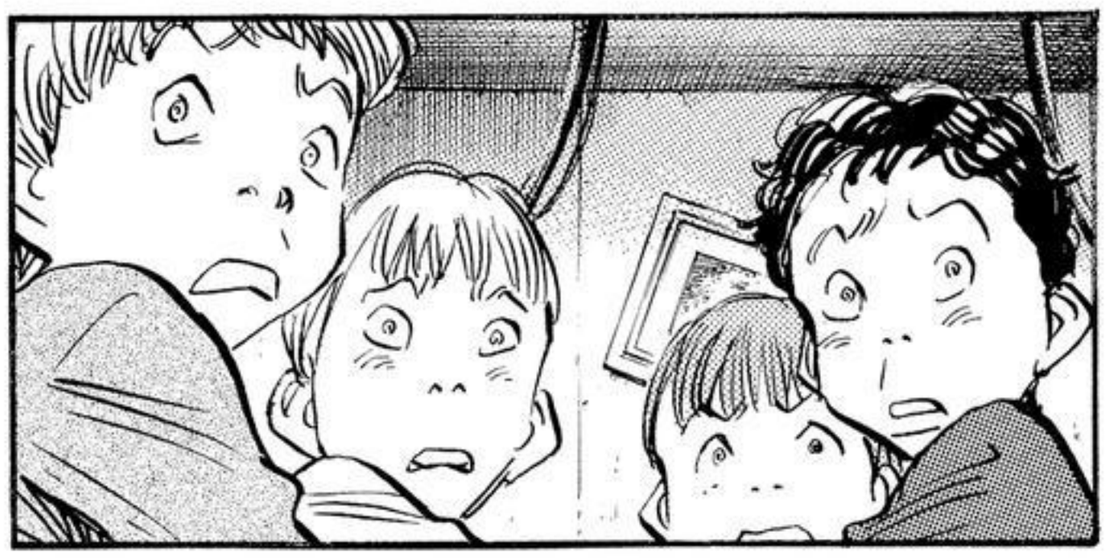
GOKRA

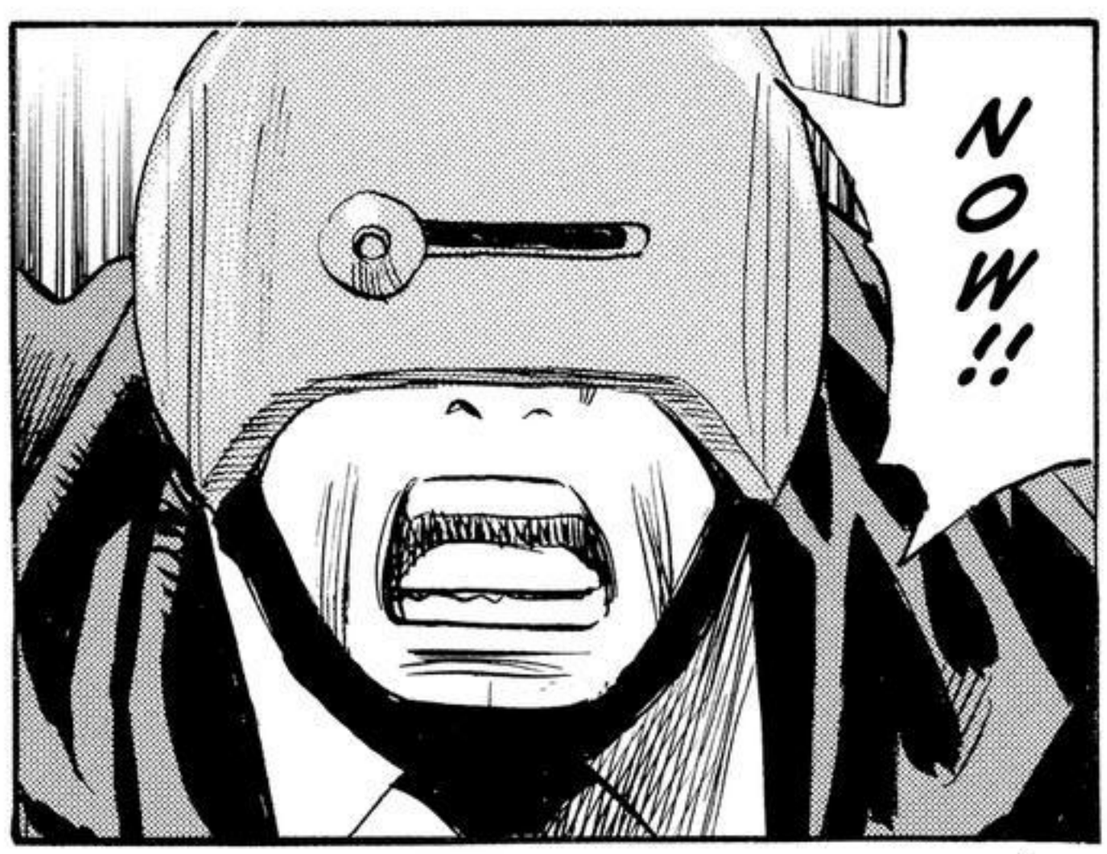

I'M SCARED !!
AGH ...

HELP !!
EEEEK !!

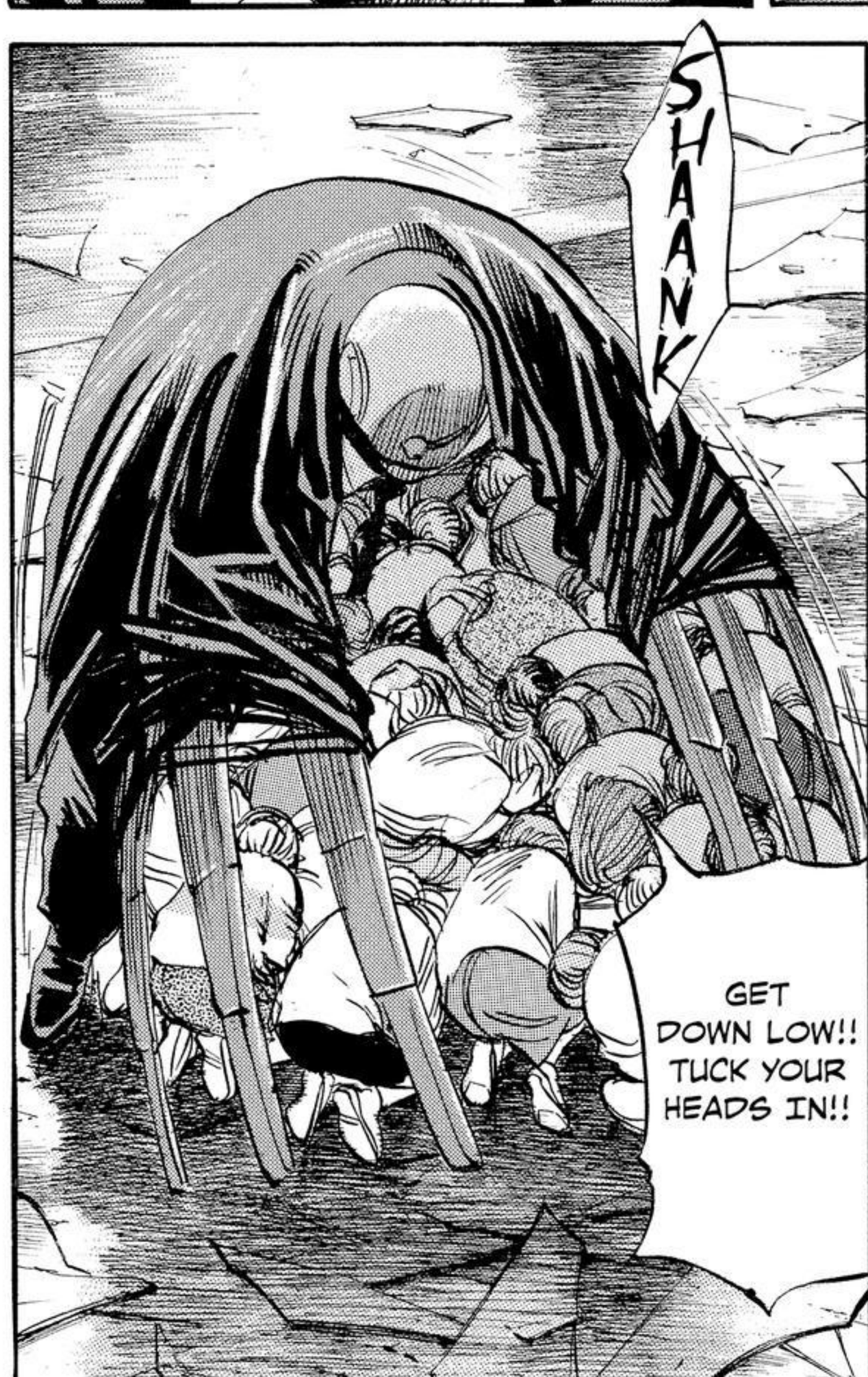

L... LOOK!

GROAR
SOMETHING'S FALLING FROM THE SKY!!
WHOMP




NOW!!

EVERYONE! COME TO ME!!

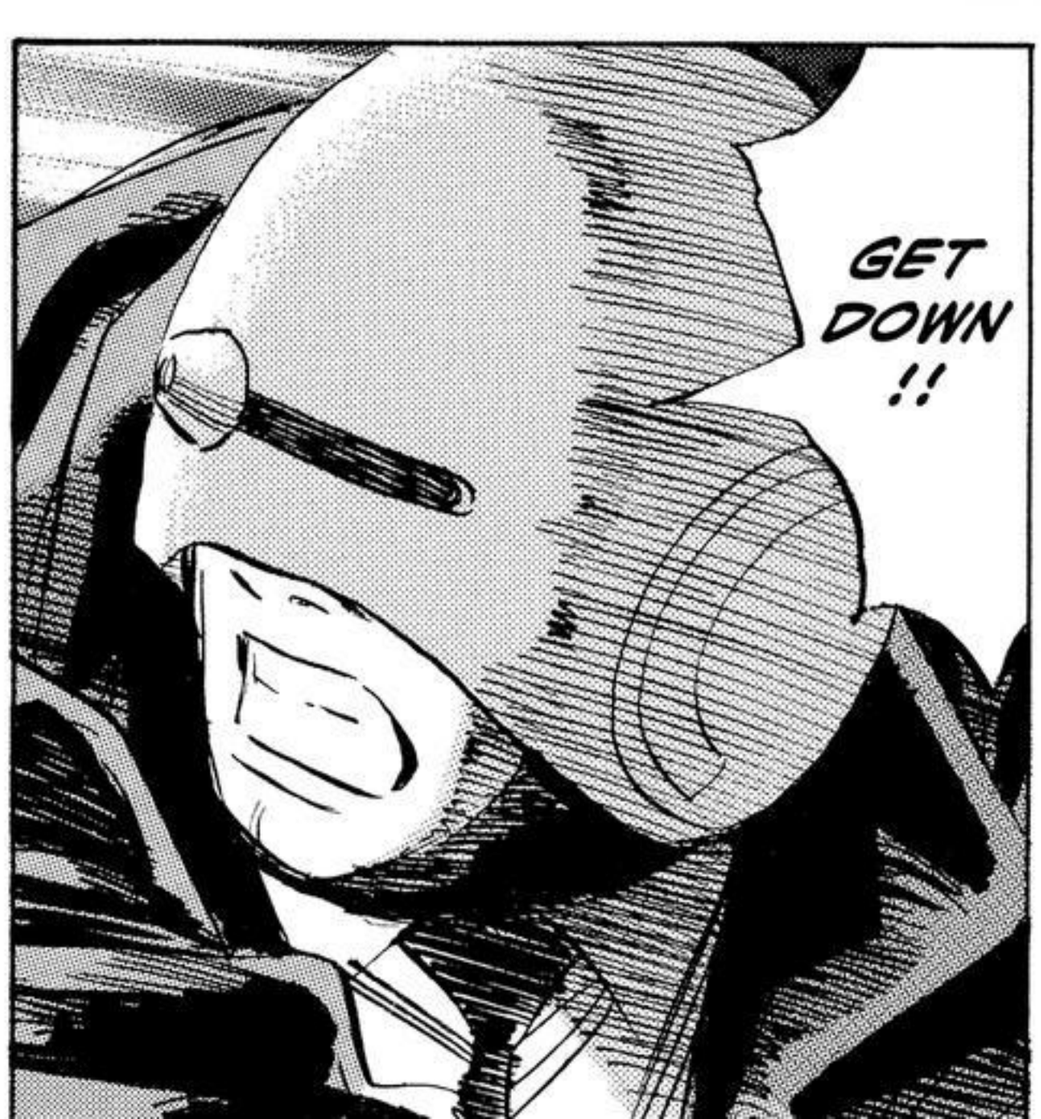

SHAANK
GET DOWN LOW!! TUCK YOUR HEADS IN!!

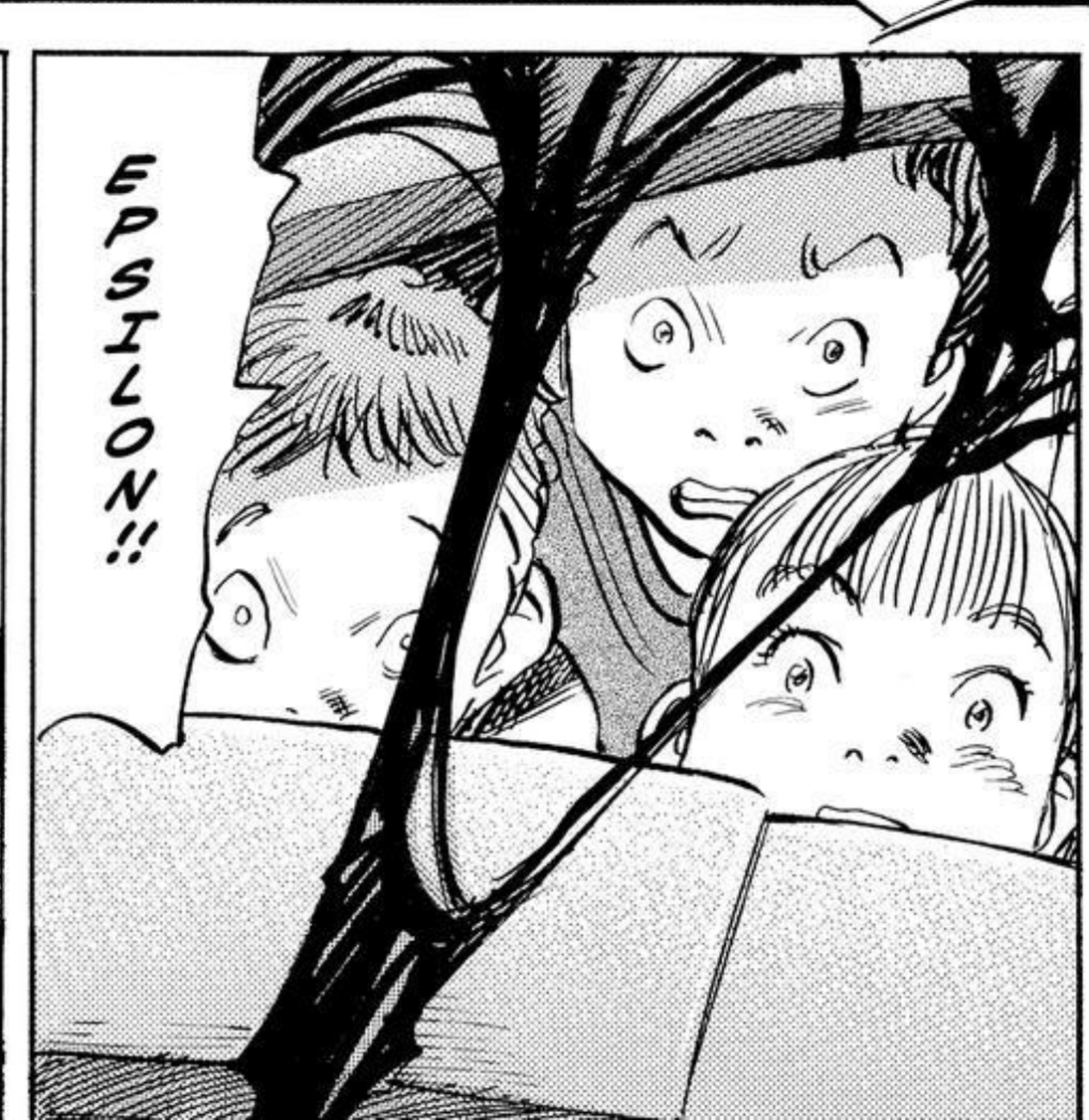
GET IN CLOSER!!

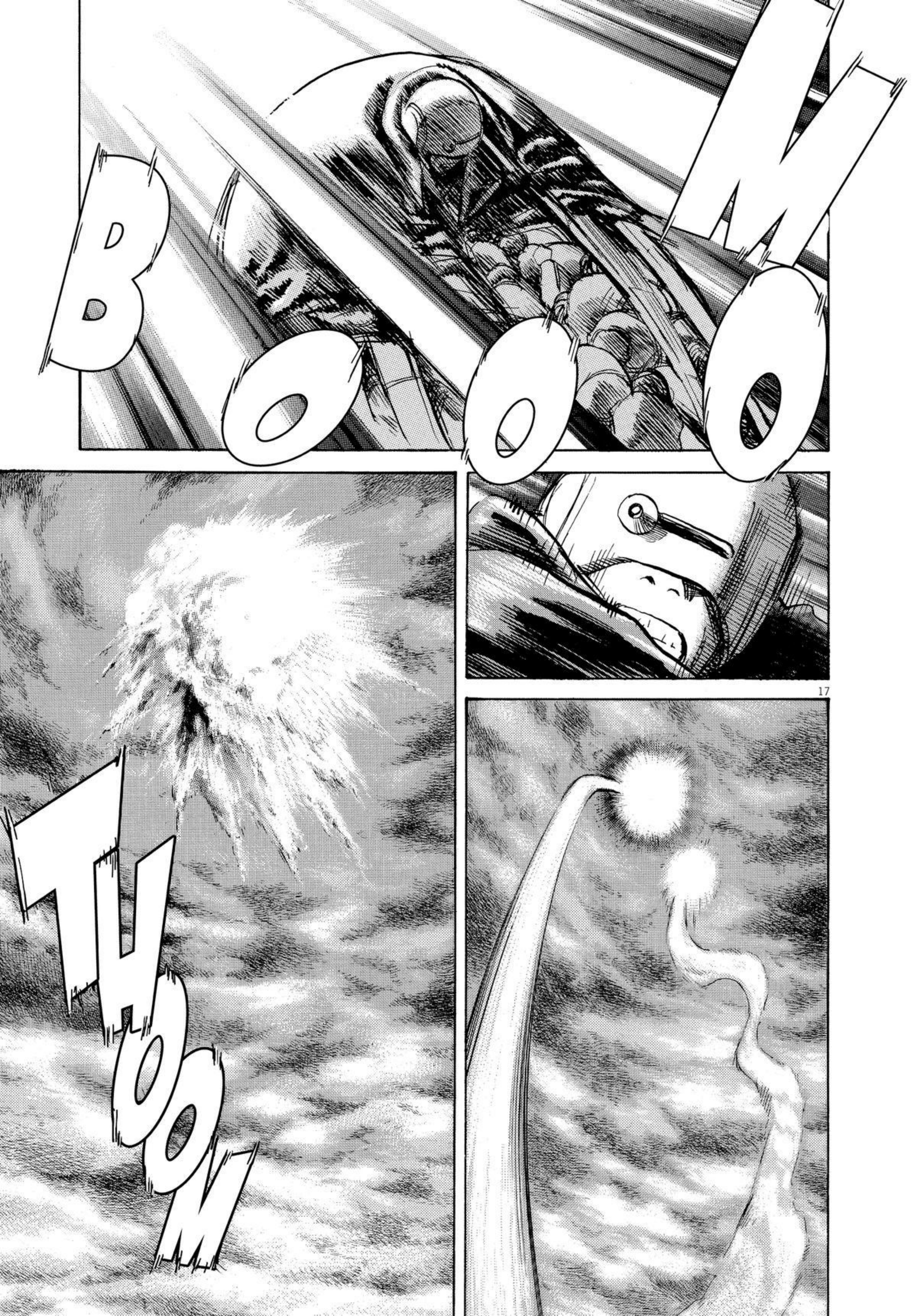
SHOOOMP

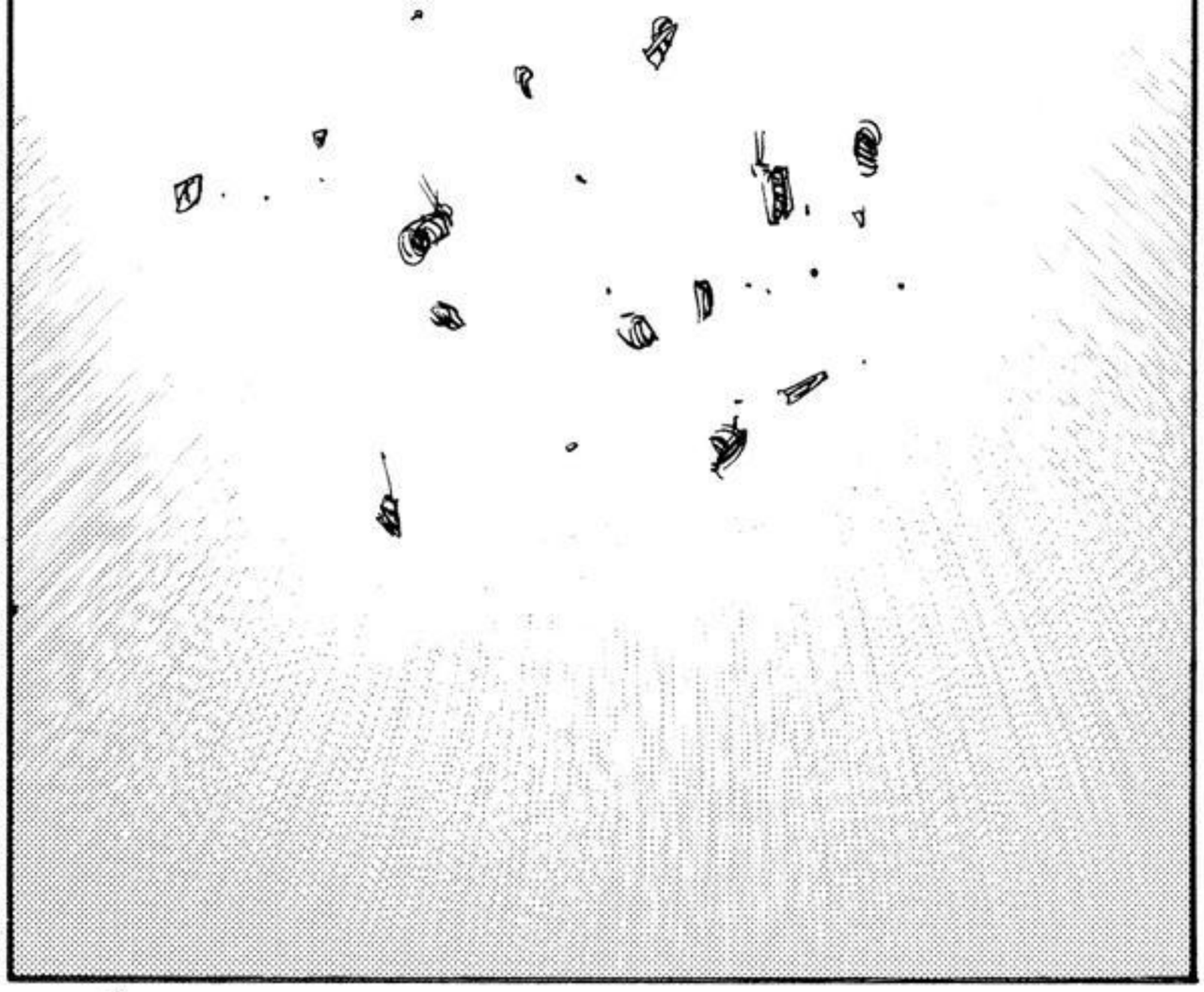
EPSILON
...!!

SHOOT

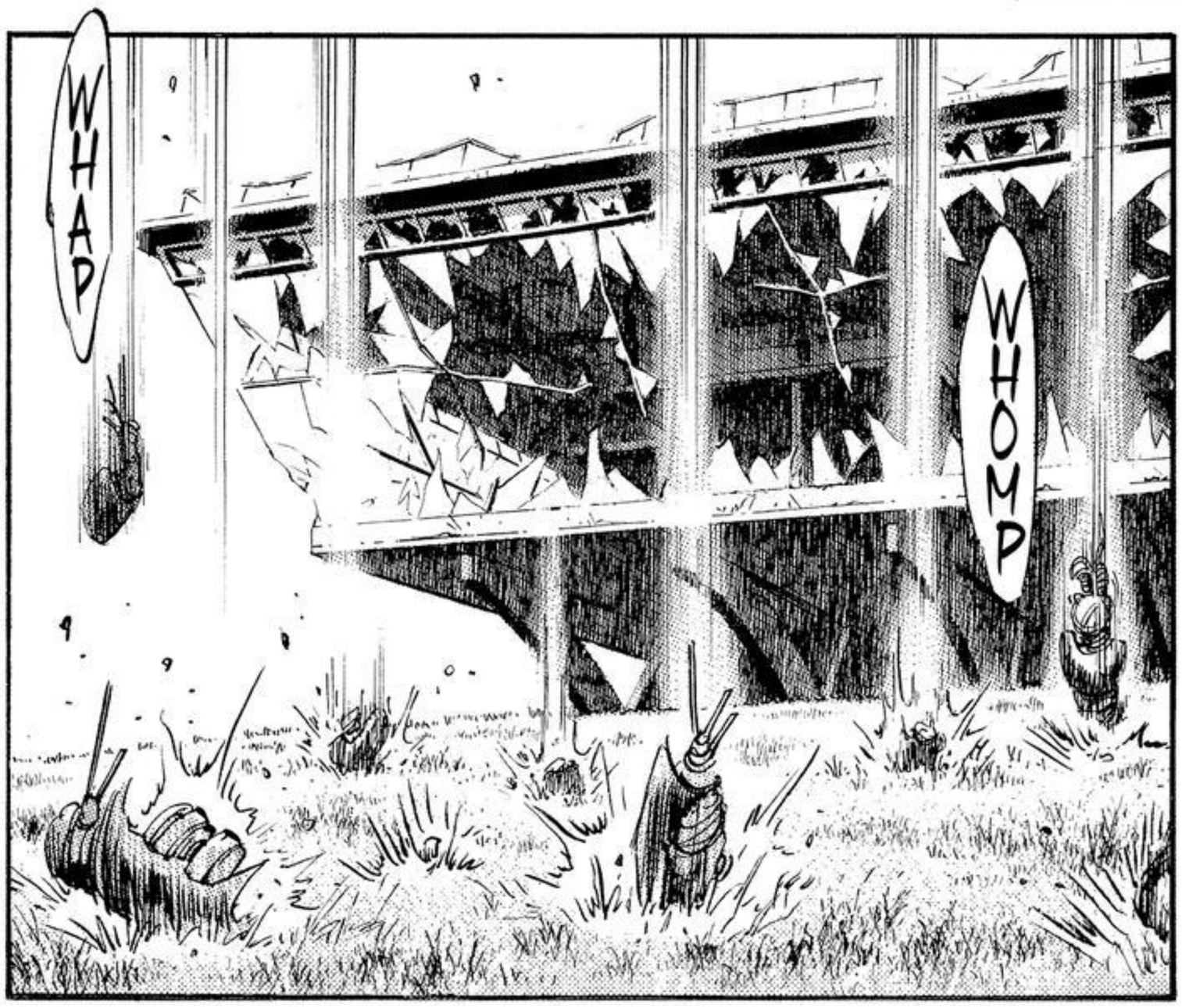

GET DOWN !!

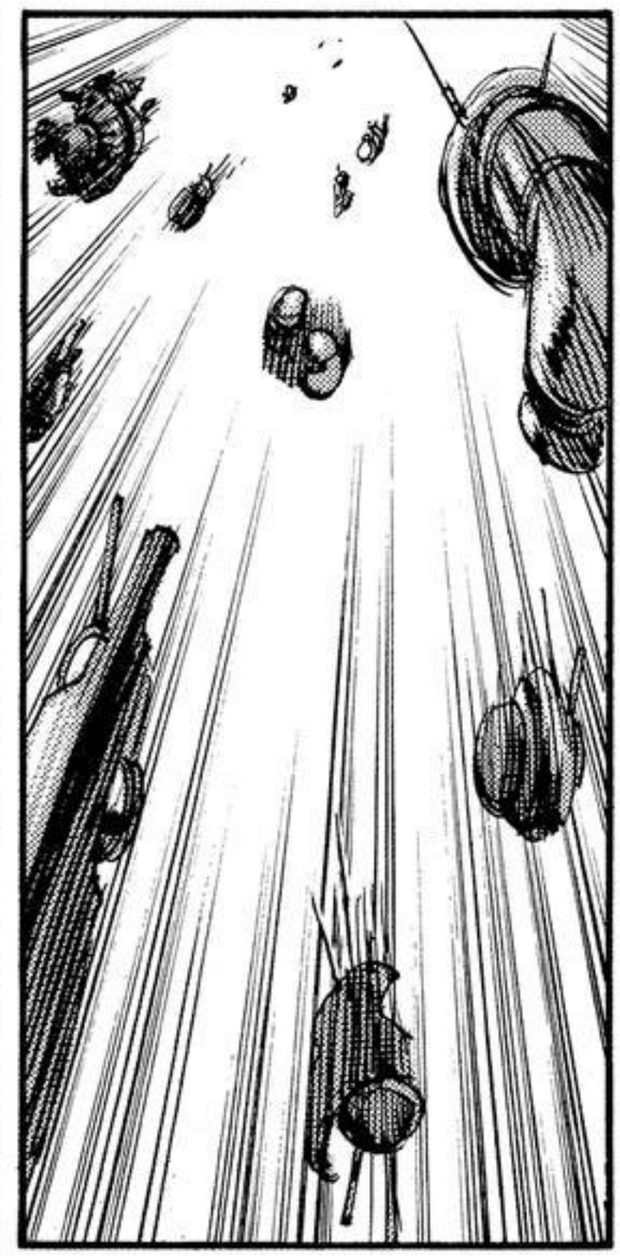

EPSILON!!


BOOO
HOOO



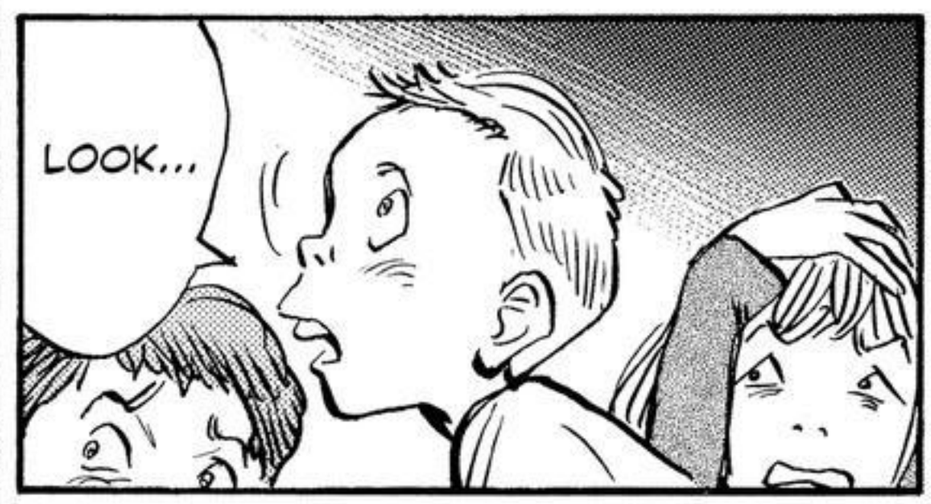
WHAT POWER...

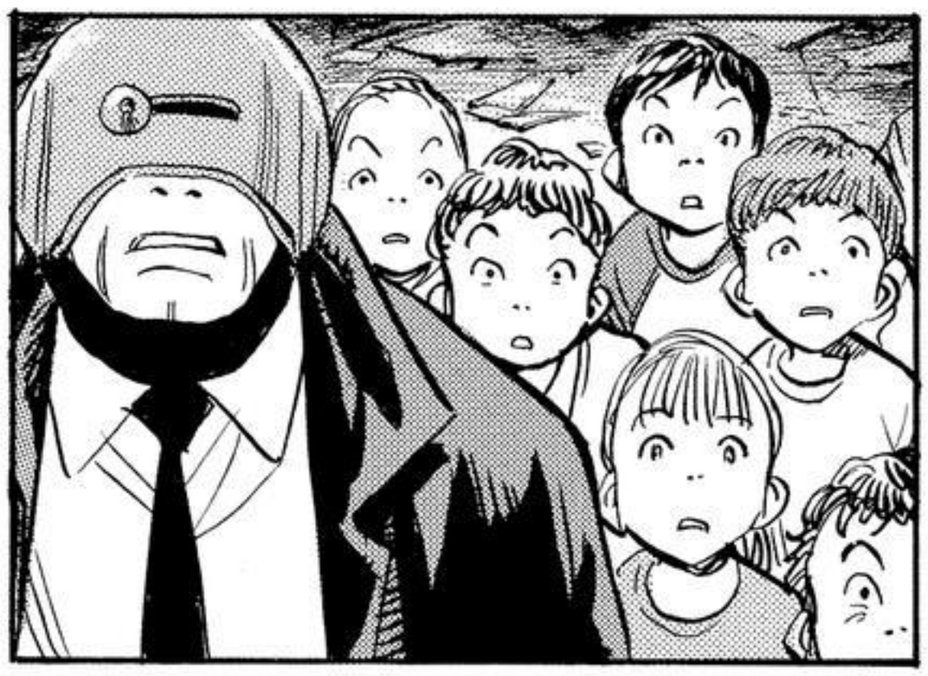

WHAD
WHOMP



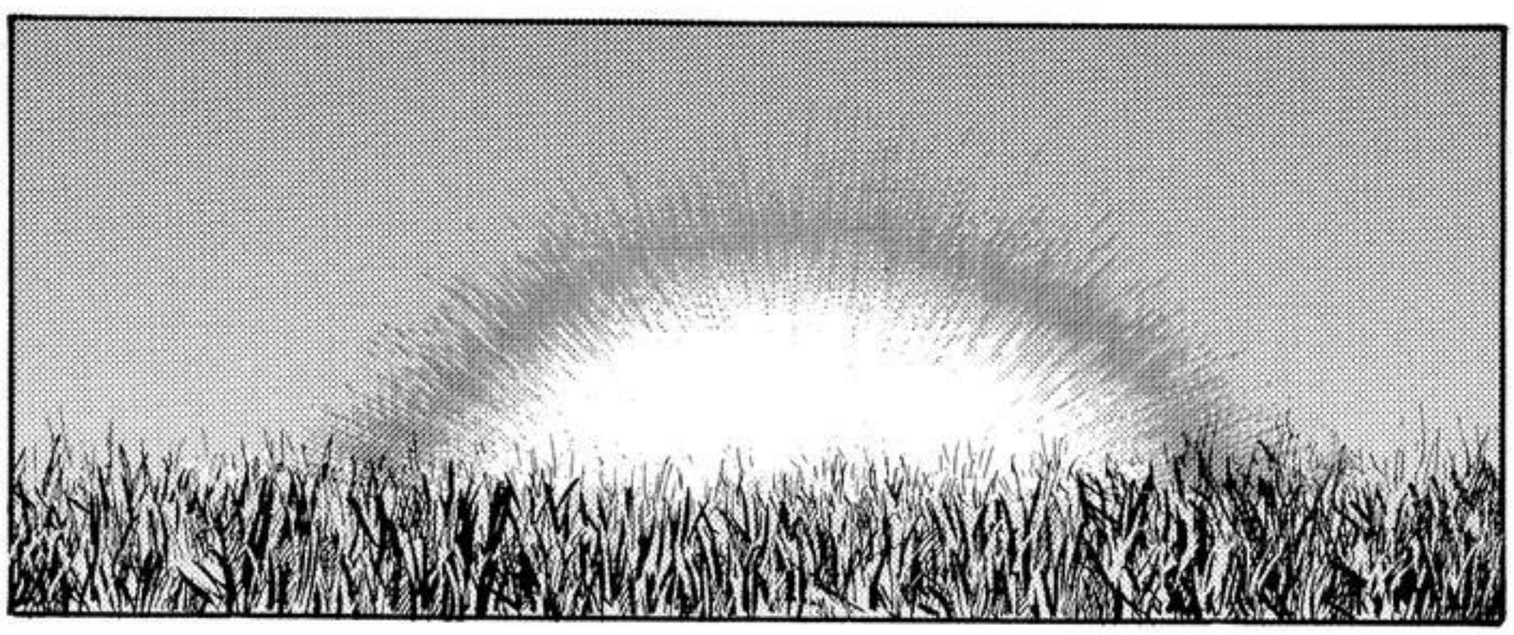
THE SUN'S COME OUT...
WAIT... LOOK.

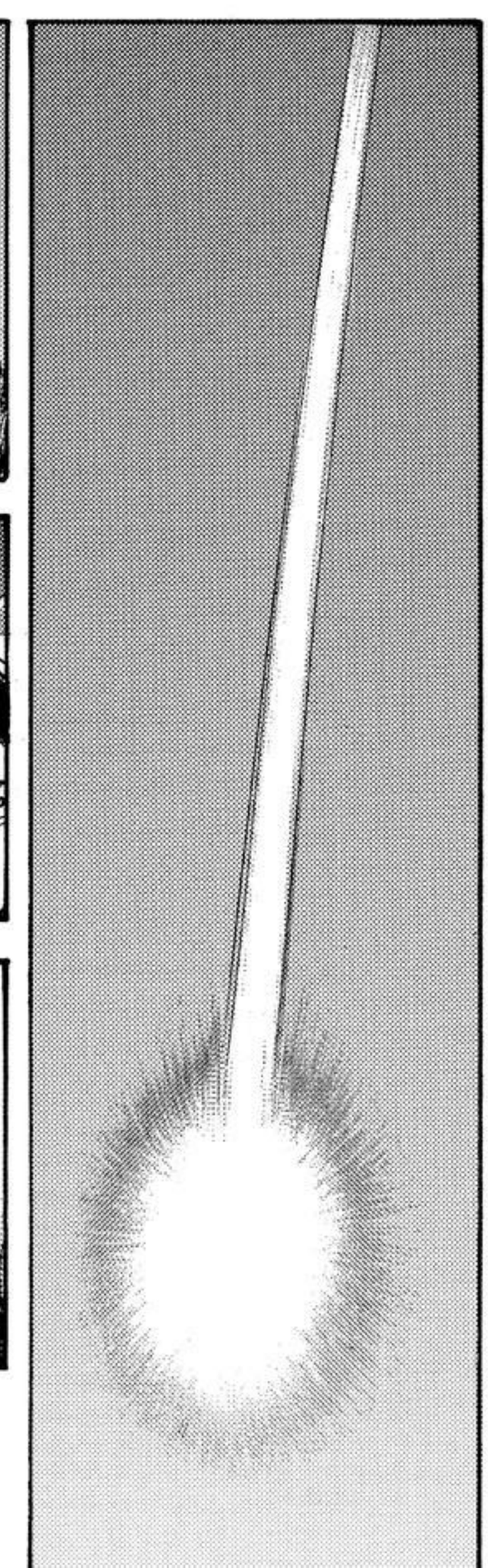
ALL KINDS OF STUFF FALLING OUTTA THE SKY.

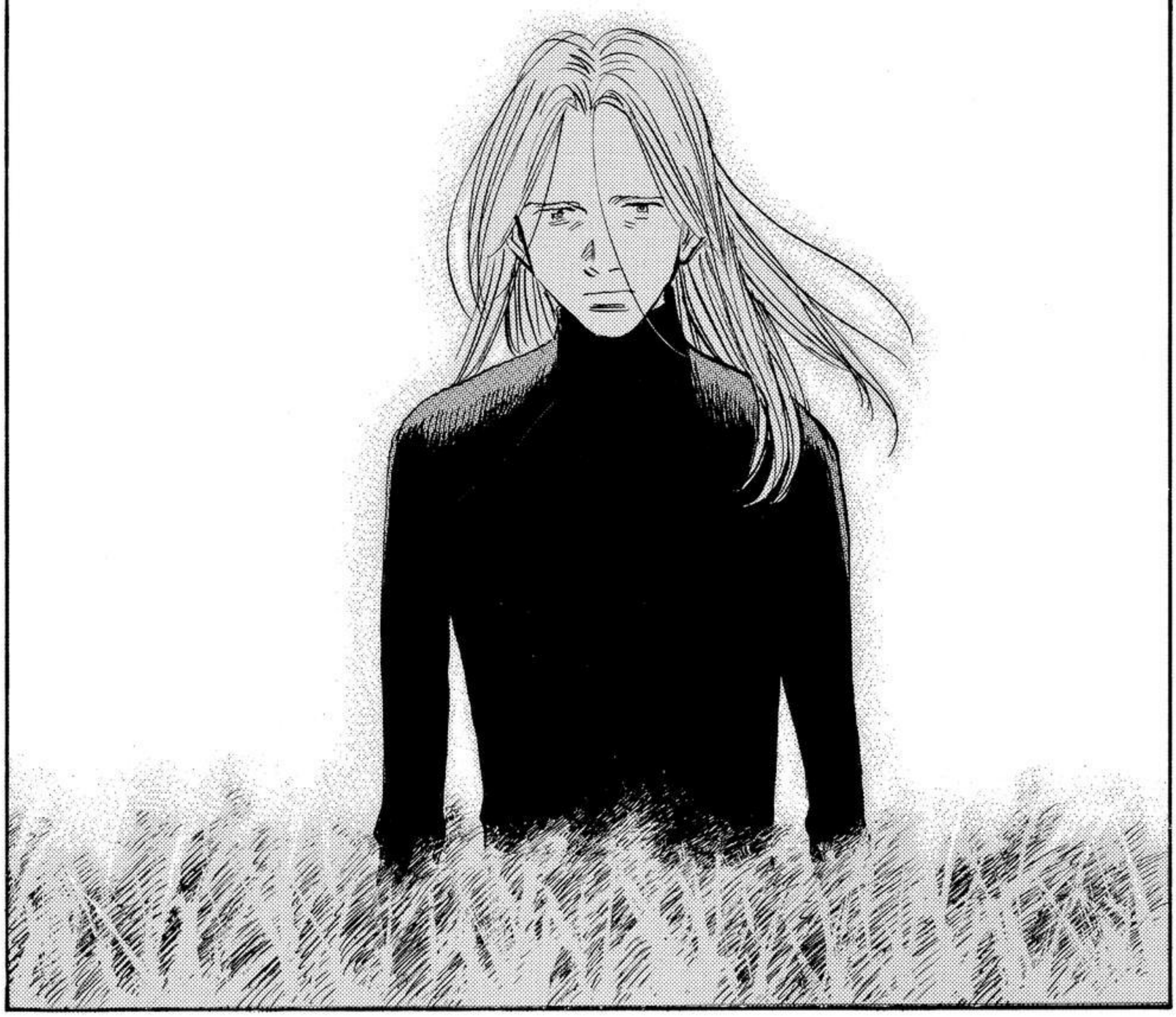

LOOK...

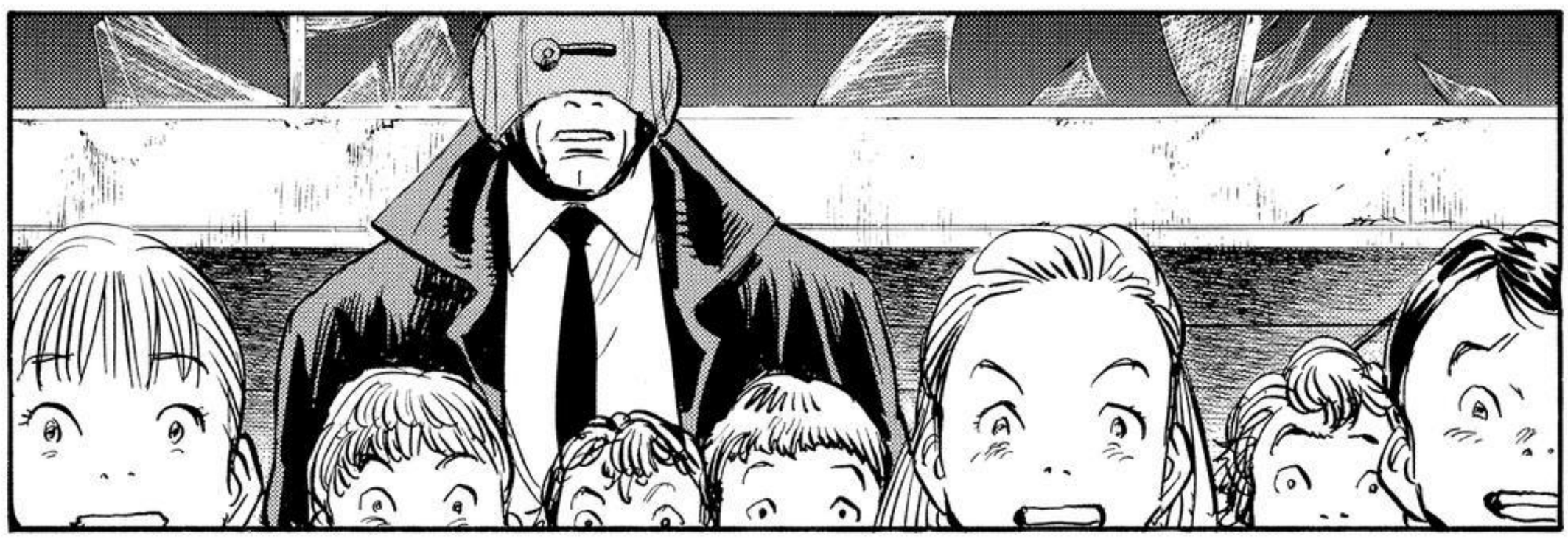


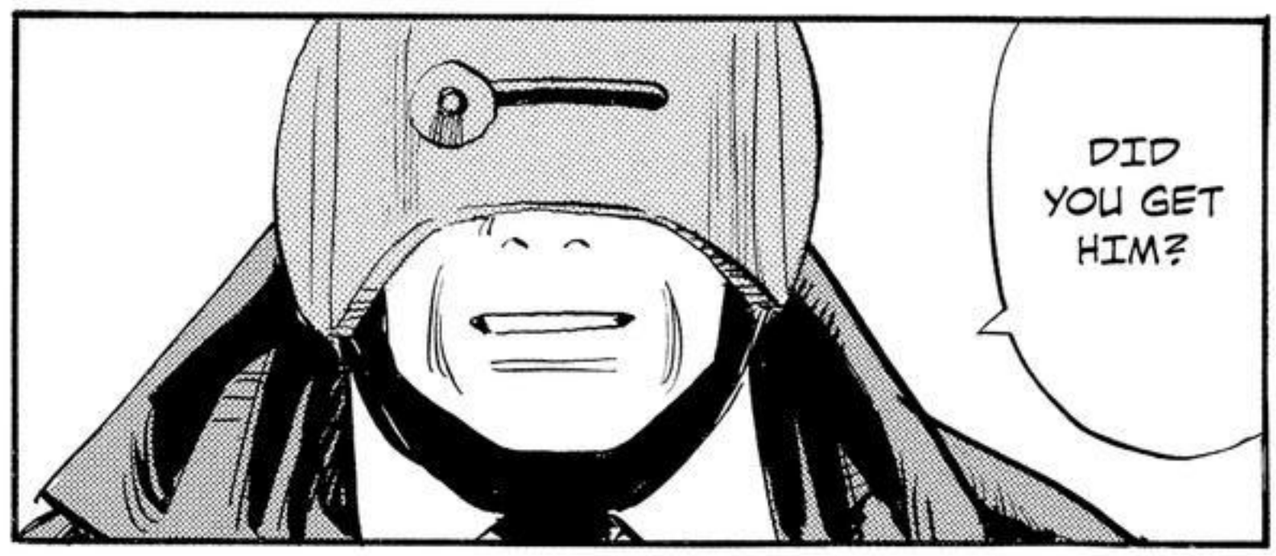
THERE'S *TWO* SUNS!!

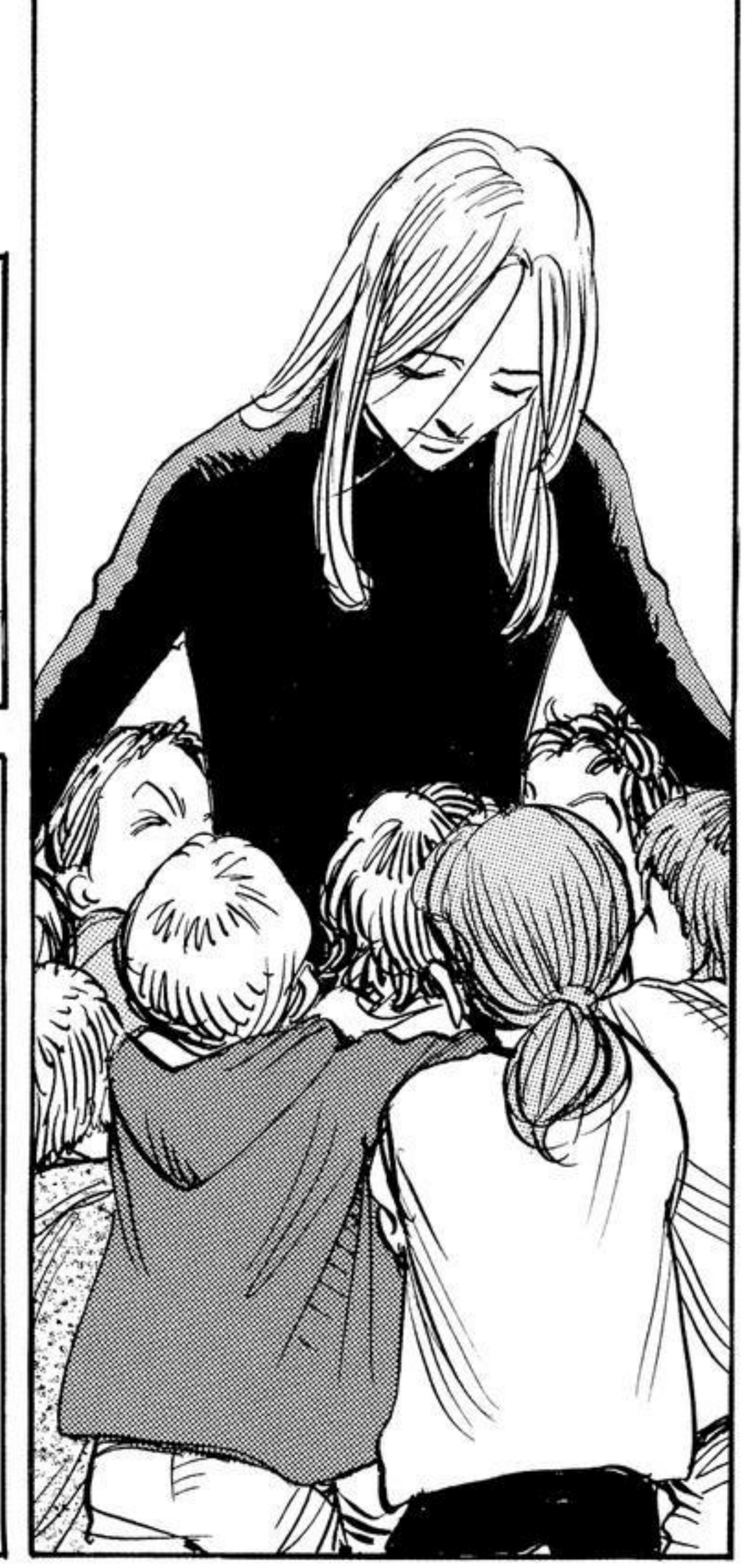


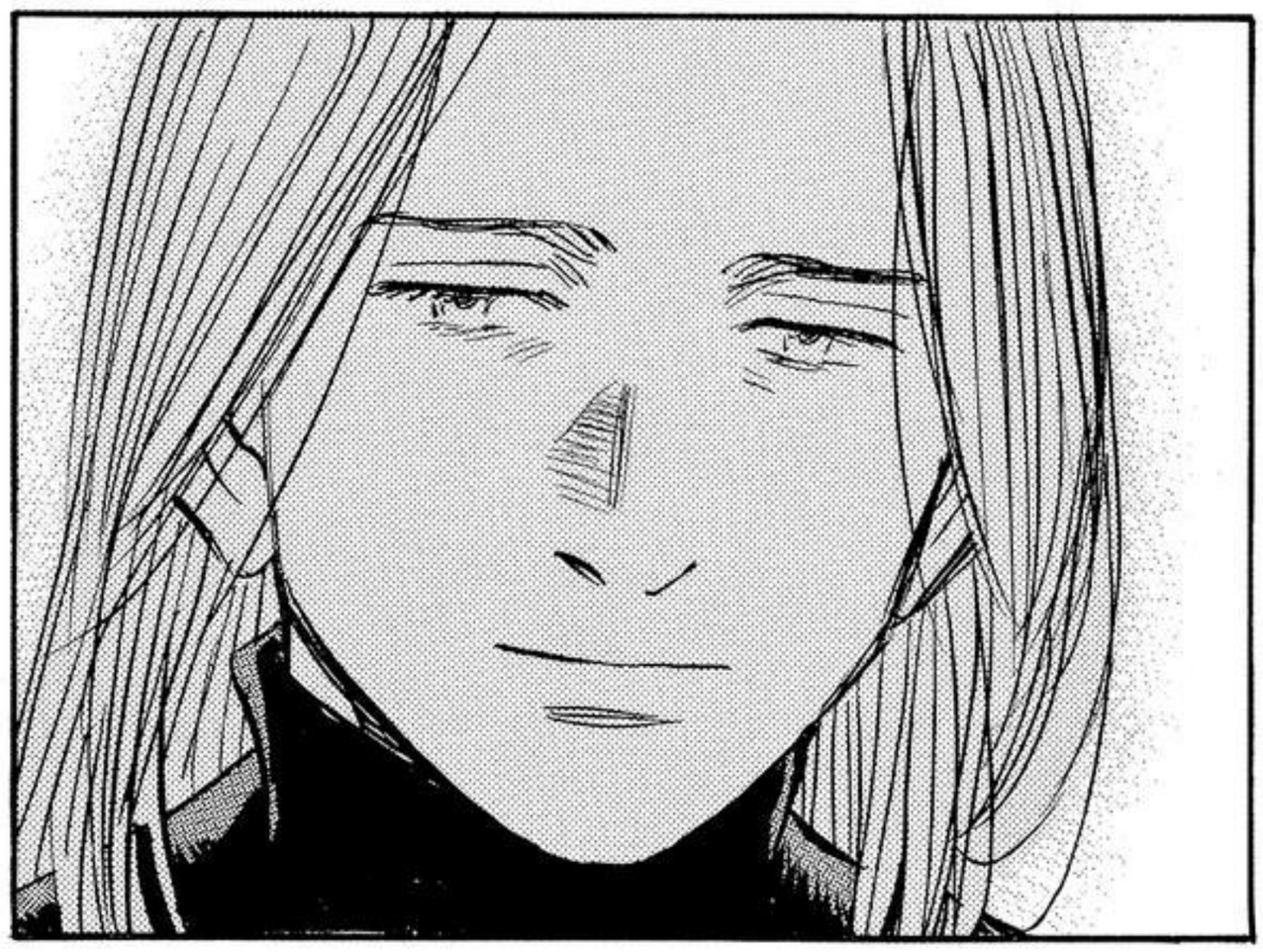







DID YOU GET HIM?

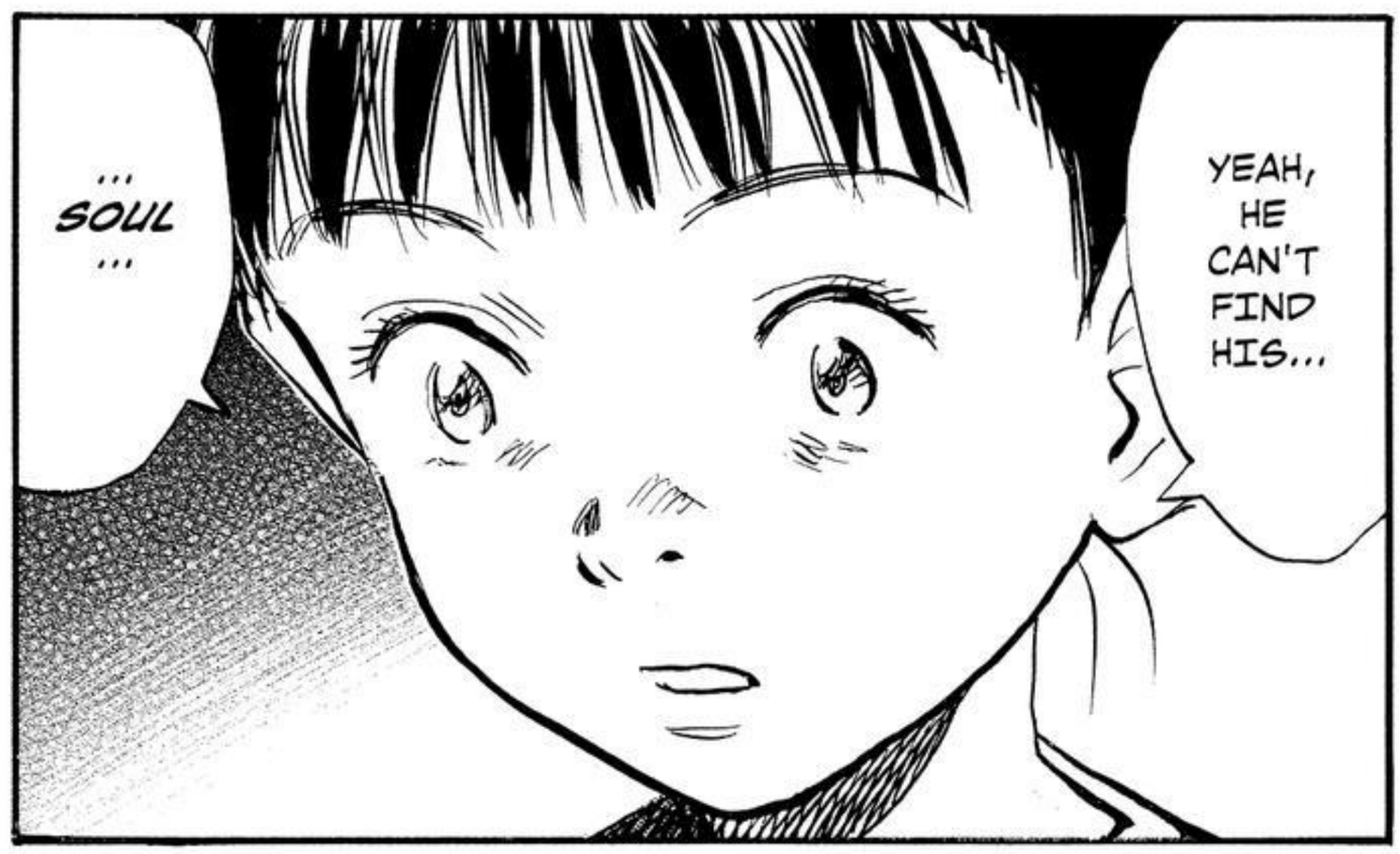




WHAT'S GOING ON?!
WELL, URAN?

THAT KID... HE'S PINOCCHIO.
WHAT ABOUT HIM?

IT'S PINOCCHIO ...
ピノキオ
Pinocchio


... SOUL ...
YEAH, HE CAN'T FIND HIS...

THE ONE WHO'S SAD AND CRYING?

HE... DOESN'T WANT TO BE CONTROLLED ...
HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE A PUPPET.

NO MATTER WHERE HE GOES, IT'S DARKER THAN IT WAS IN THE BELLY OF THE WHALE.
ピノキオ
Pinocchio

BUT HE'S REALLY BEING CONTROLLED BY HIS HATRED...

HE THINKS HE'S ACTING ON HIS OWN, BUT...

AND...

...

GEPPETTO IS TOO...

HE'S NOT THE ONLY ONE BEING CONTROLLED ...

AND IT'S NOT JUST HIM...

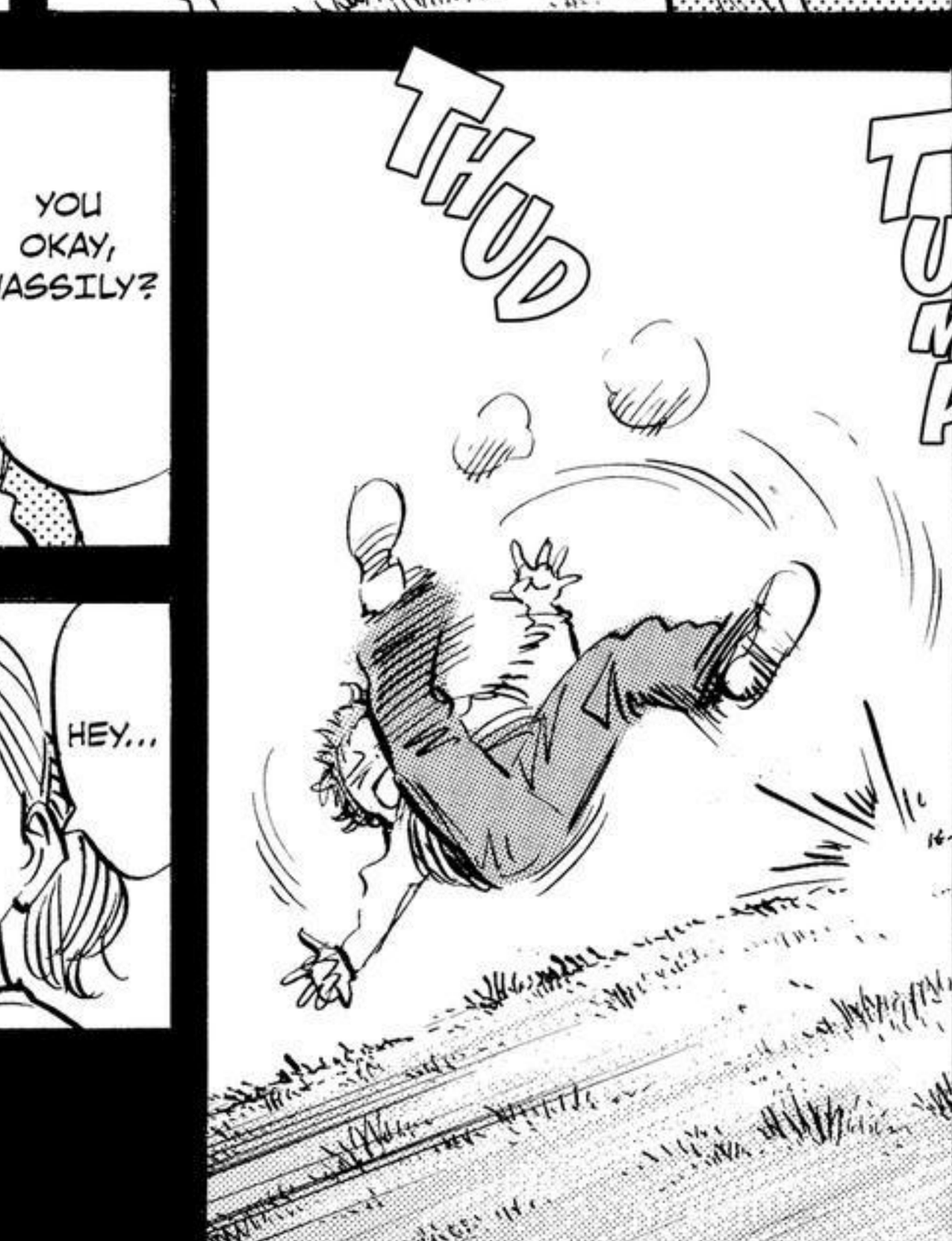
...?

YOU SEE, GEPPETTO'S REALLY A PUPPET TOO, JUST LIKE PINOCCHIO...

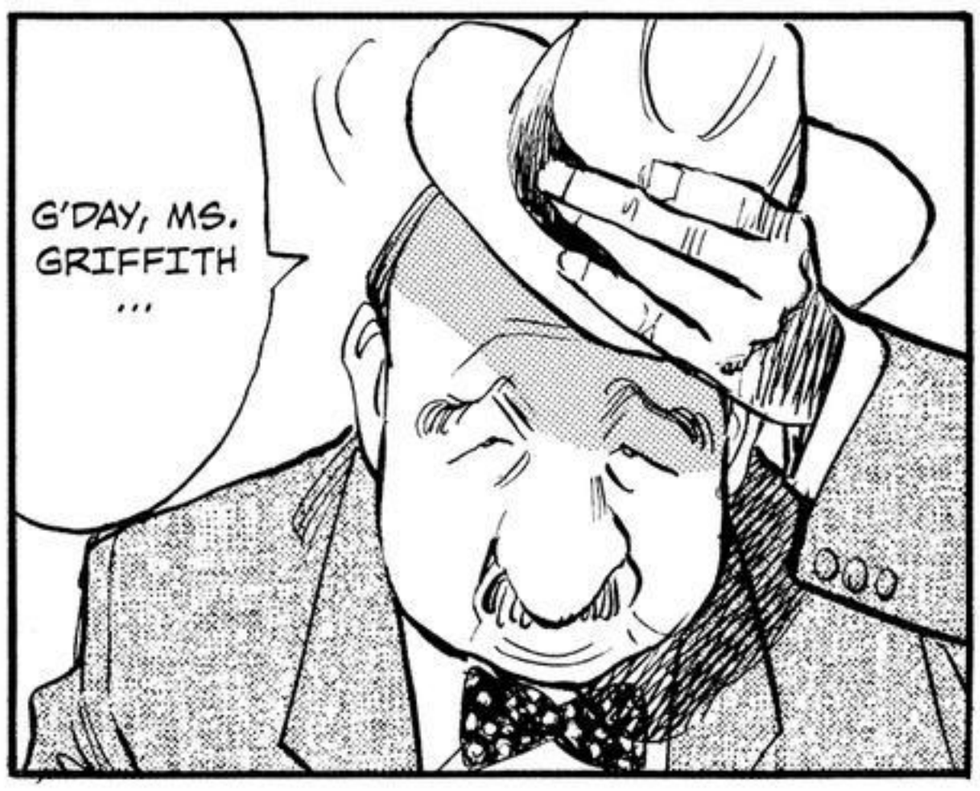
I WANTED TO TALK WITH HIM SOME MORE...

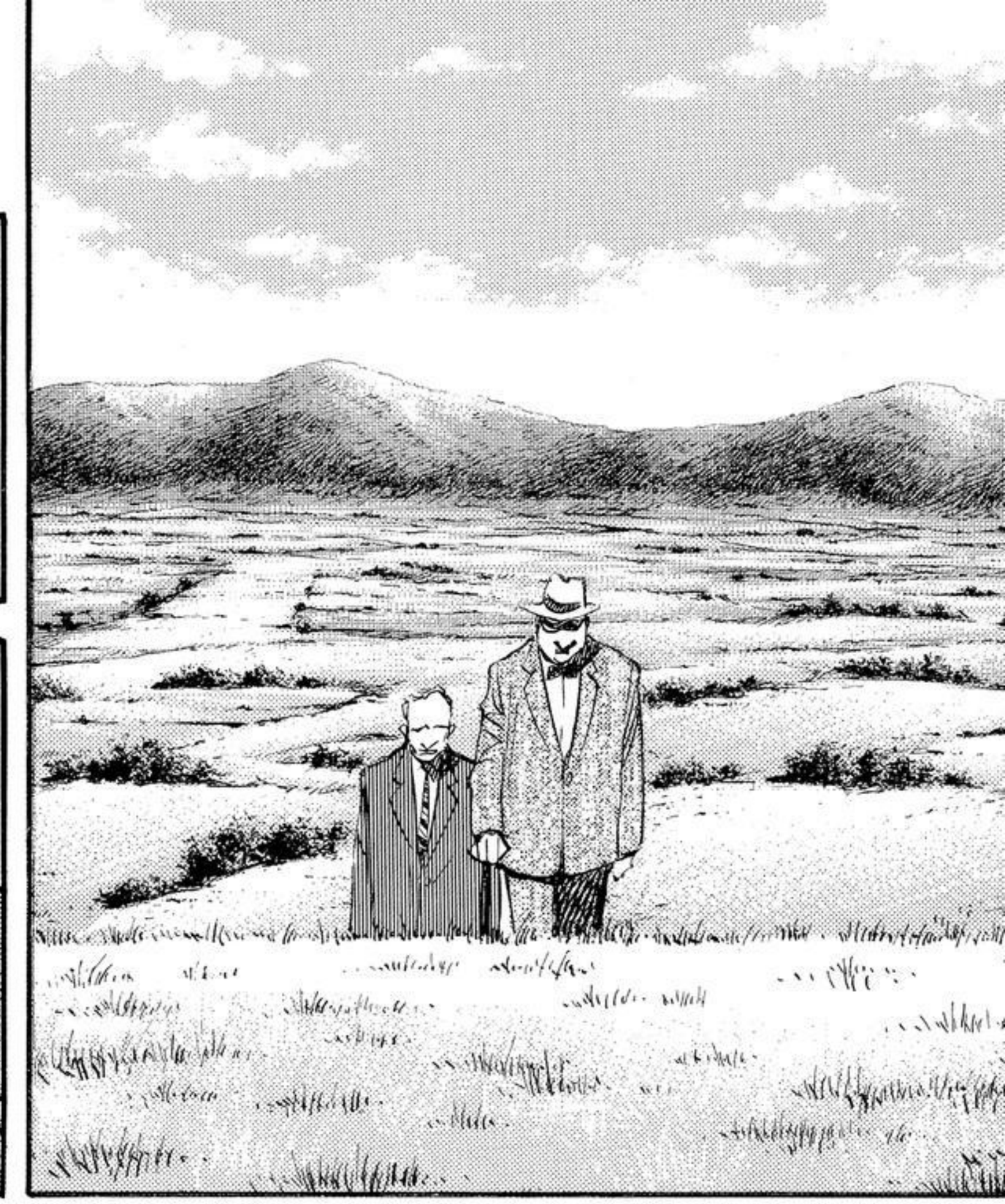
BUT HE DISAPPEARED...

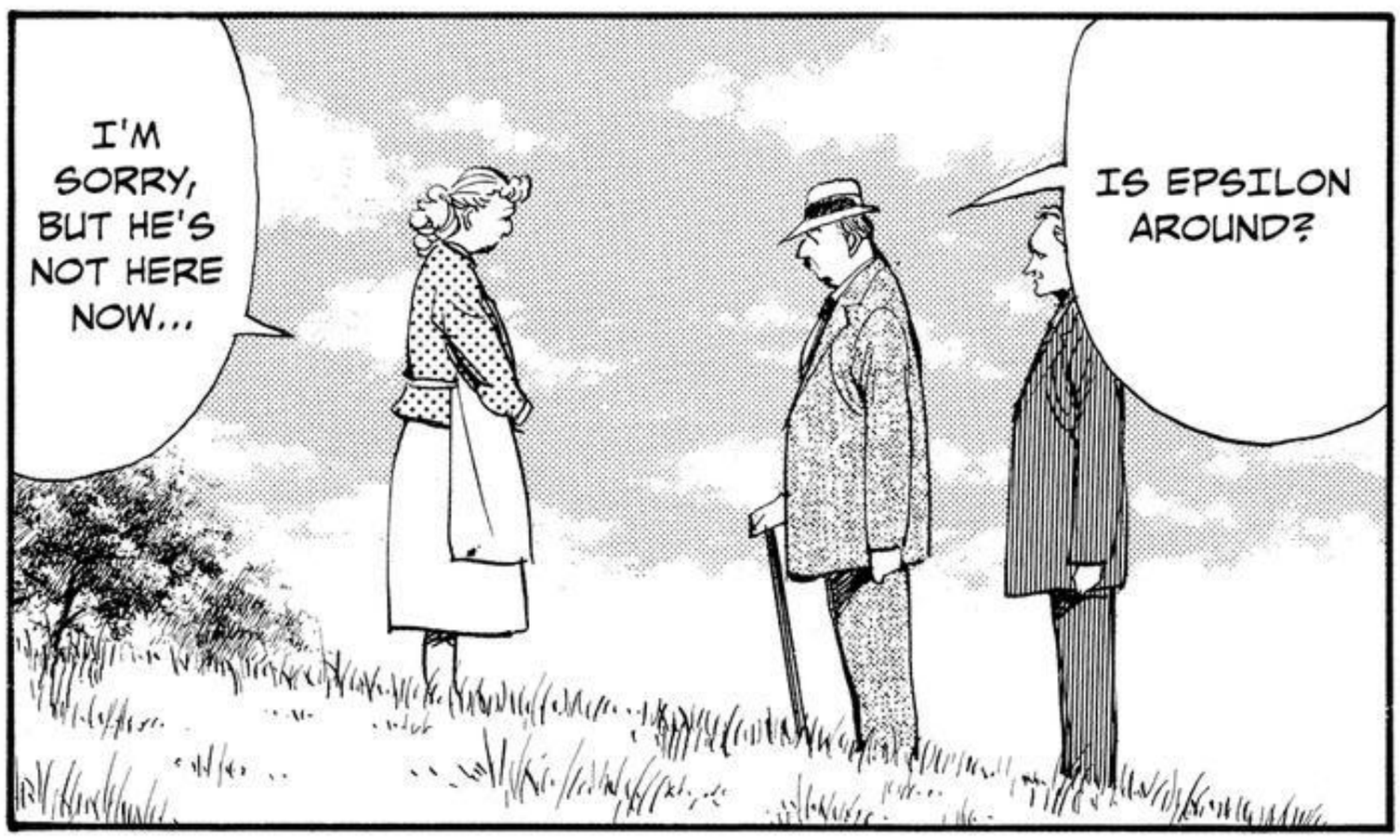
Act 52 WASSILY'S CHOICE



IT'S MR. SIMON FROM THE CHILD SERVICES AGENCY.

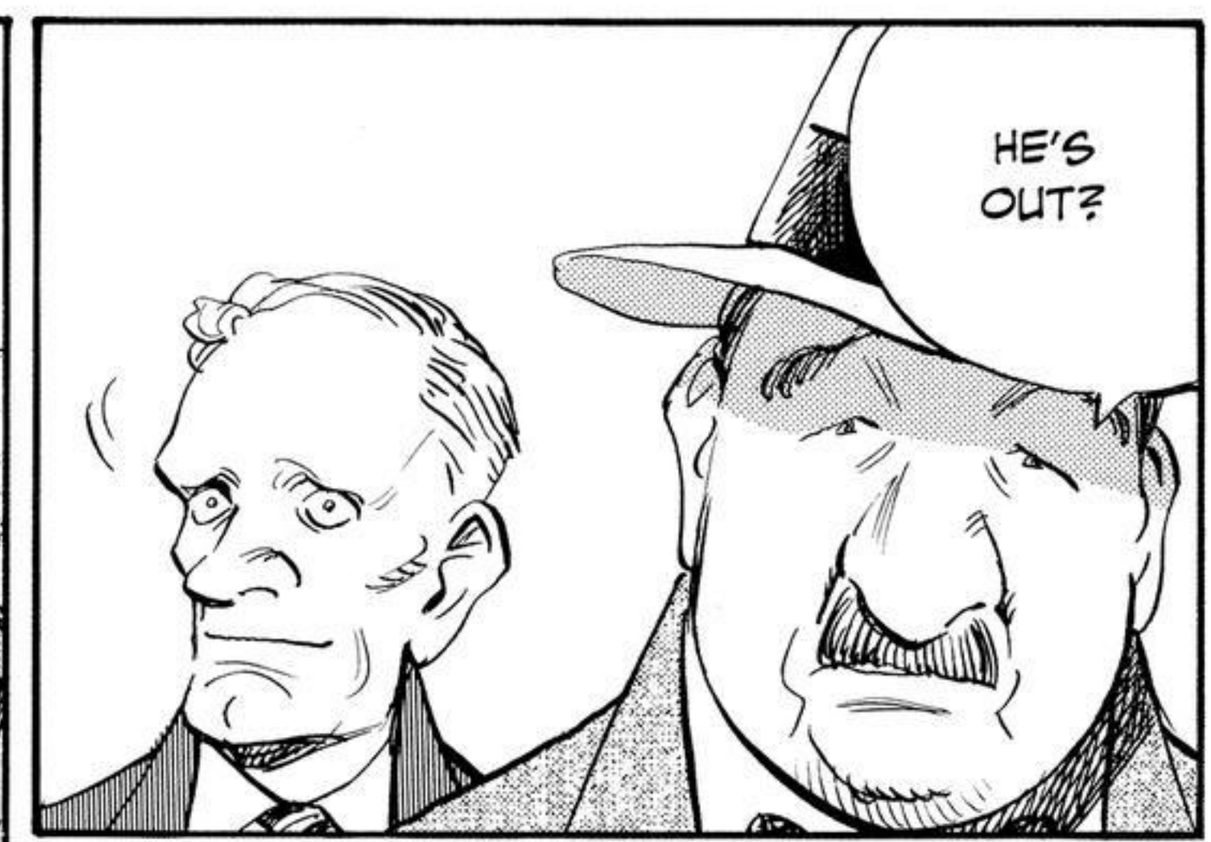

G'DAY, MS. GRIFFITH ...




I'M SORRY, BUT HE'S NOT HERE NOW...
IS EPSILON AROUND?

UH... HELLO...

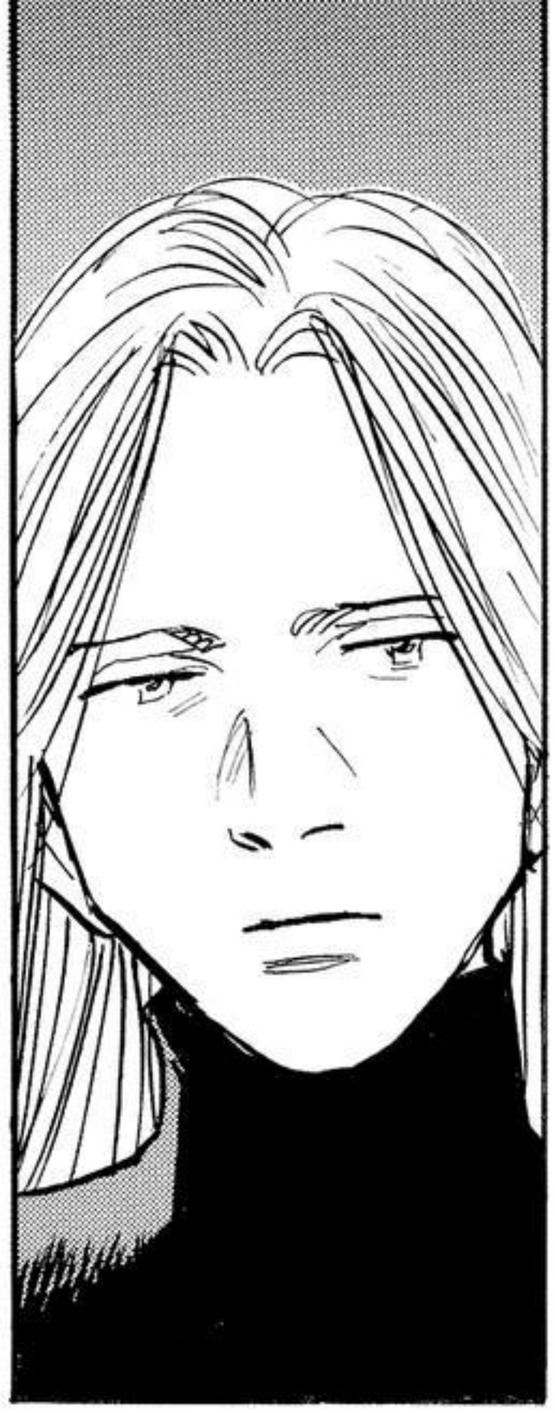
YES, HE'S ACTUALLY AT A HEARING ...
WHA HA HA HAH!


HE'S OUT?

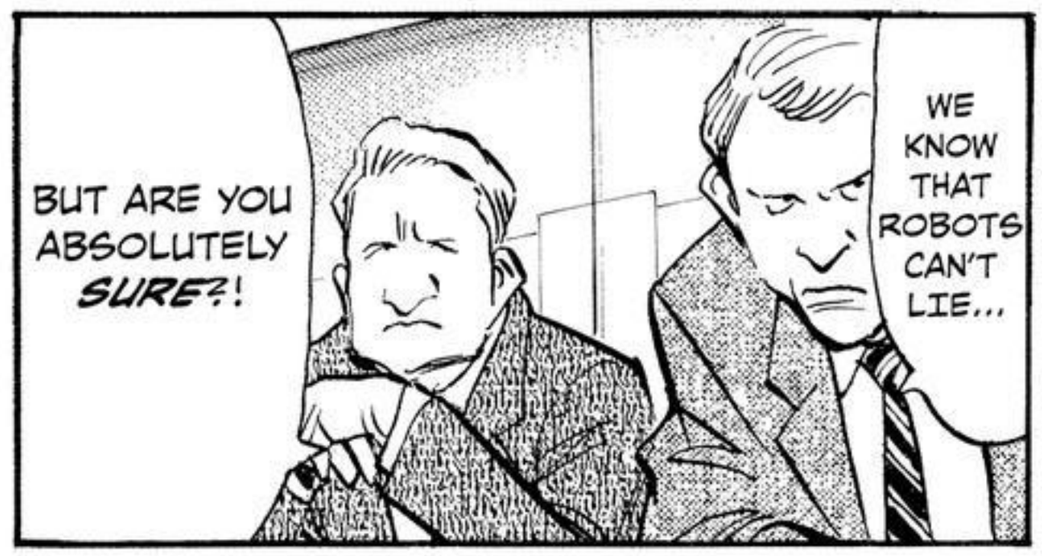
Act 52

WASSILY'S CHOICE

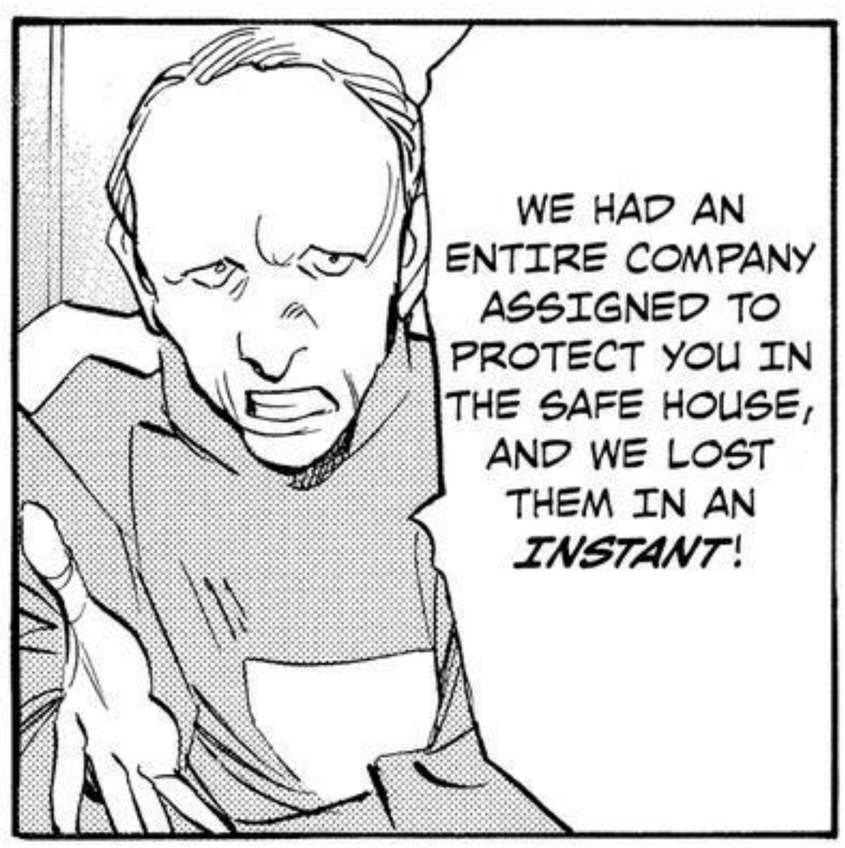
UN FORCES CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS



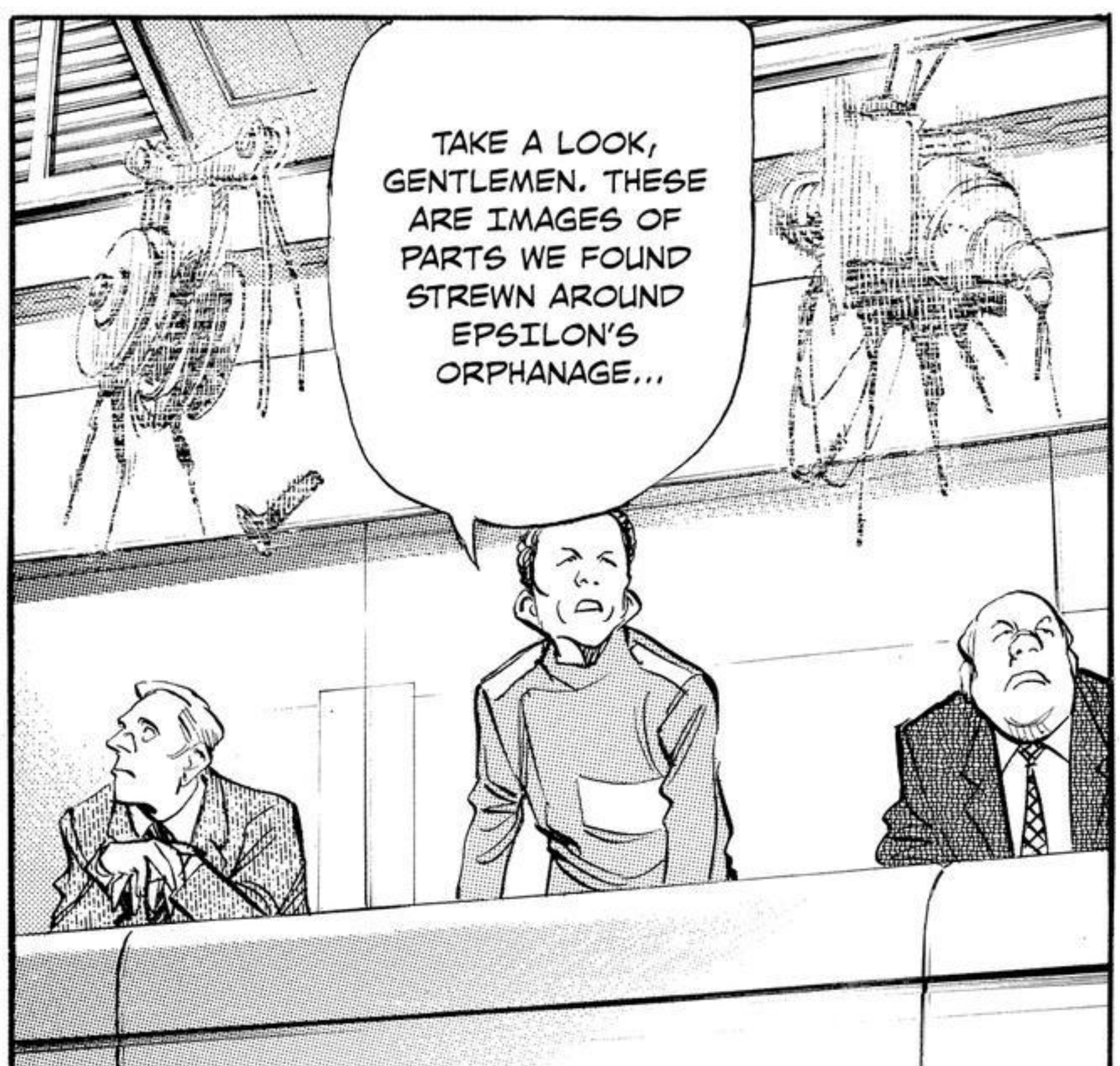
COM-
PLETELY?


BUT ARE YOU ABSOLUTELY *SURE*?!
WE KNOW THAT ROBOTS CAN'T LIE...

I DEFEATED MY ENEMY...


WE HAD AN ENTIRE COMPANY ASSIGNED TO PROTECT YOU IN THE SAFE HOUSE, AND WE LOST THEM IN AN *INSTANT*!

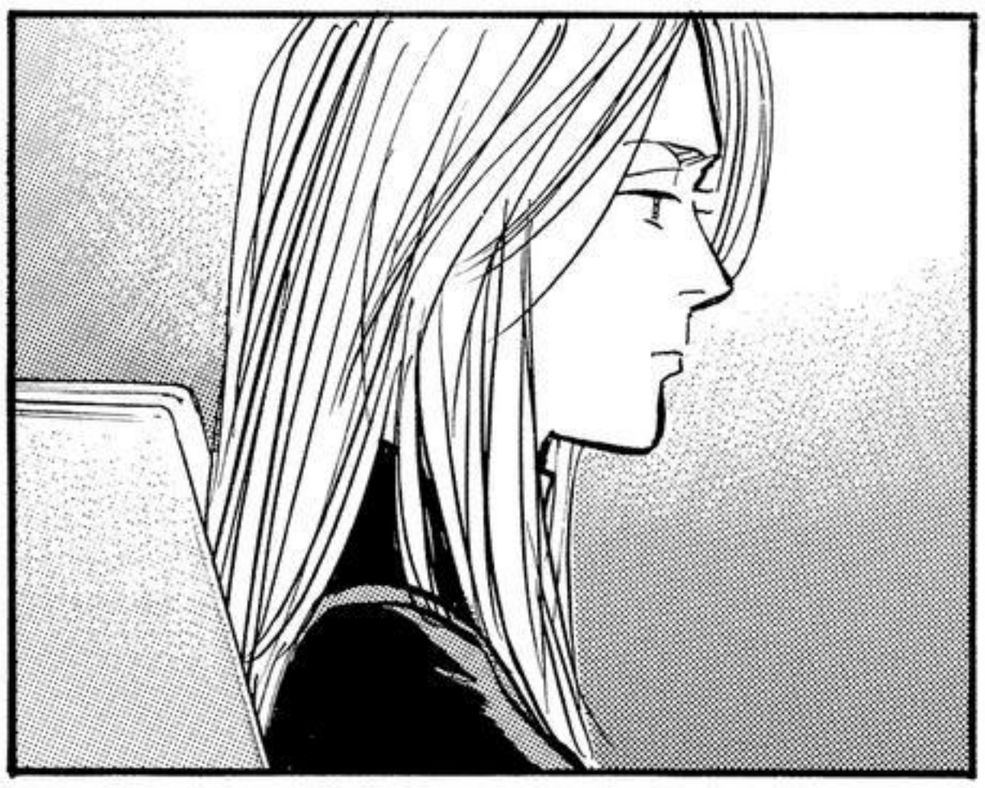
WELL THEN, LET ME ASK THIS. WHY WEREN'T YOU ABLE TO PROTECT THE GENERAL?!
I DEFEATED MY ENEMY.

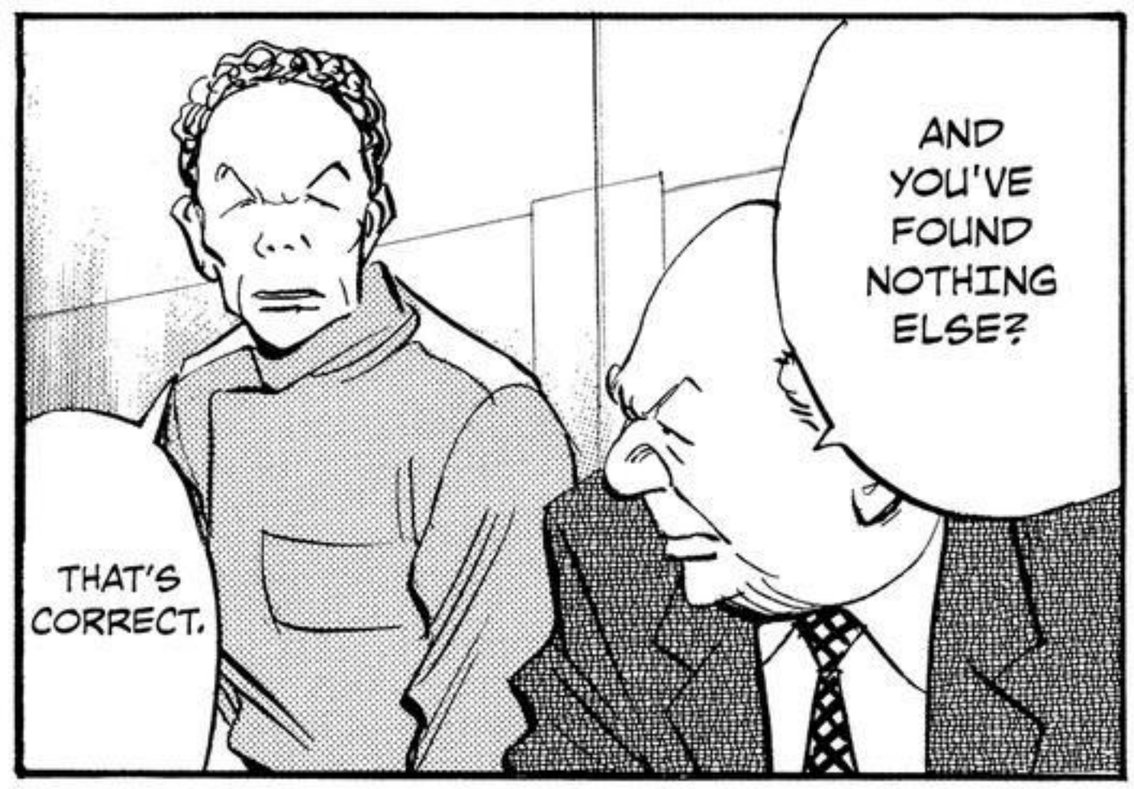

TAKE A LOOK, GENTLEMEN. THESE ARE IMAGES OF PARTS WE FOUND STREWN AROUND EPSILON'S ORPHANAGE...

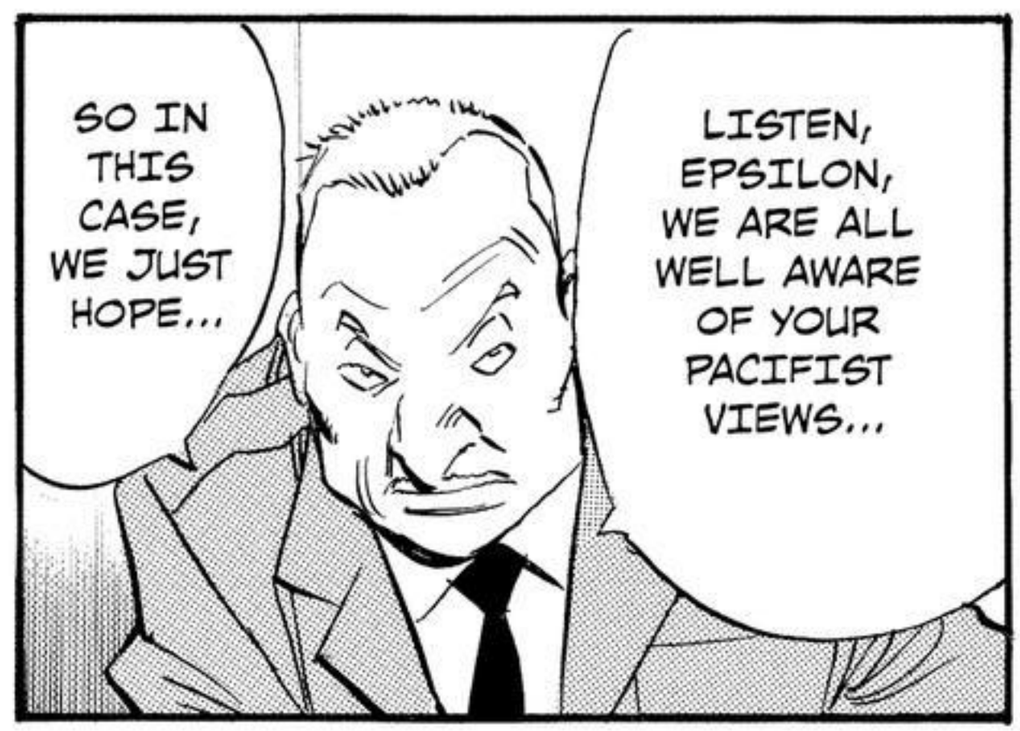
THAT WAS AN ATTACK WITH A DIFFERENT KIND OF WEAPON...
THAT WAS DIFFERENT ...

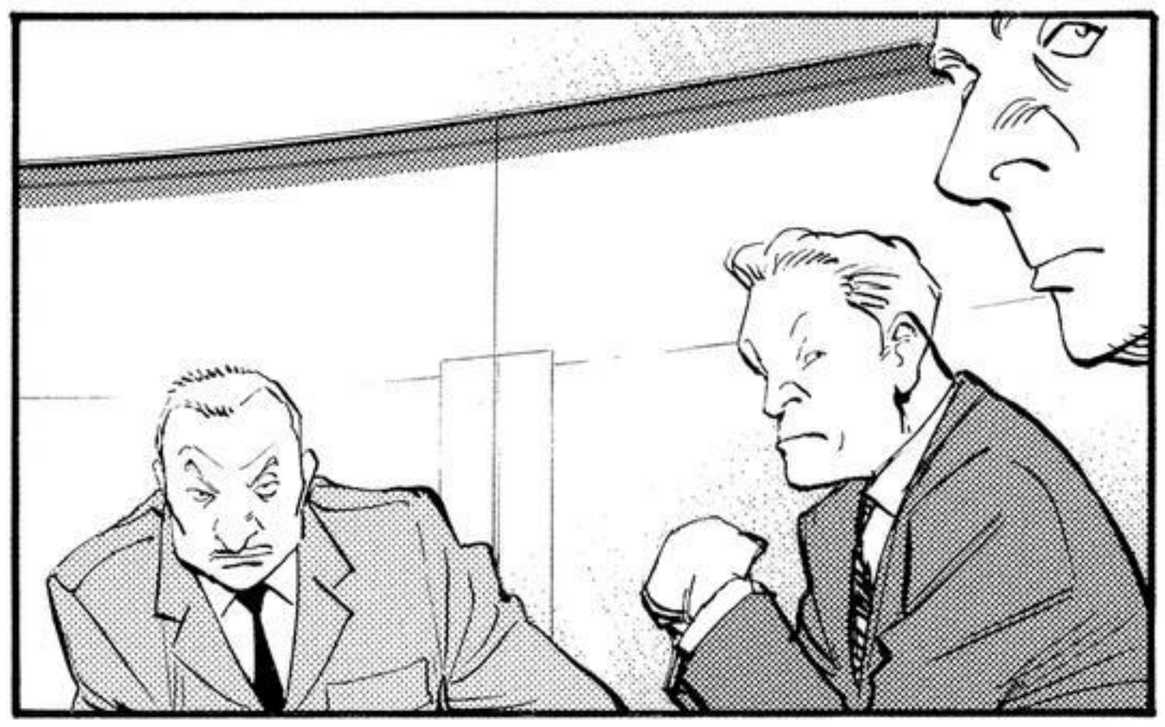
WE HAVEN'T MADE A FINAL DETERMINATION YET, BUT THESE PARTS APPEAR TO BE FROM THE LEFT ARM OF A ROBOT MANUFACTURED IN PERSIA...

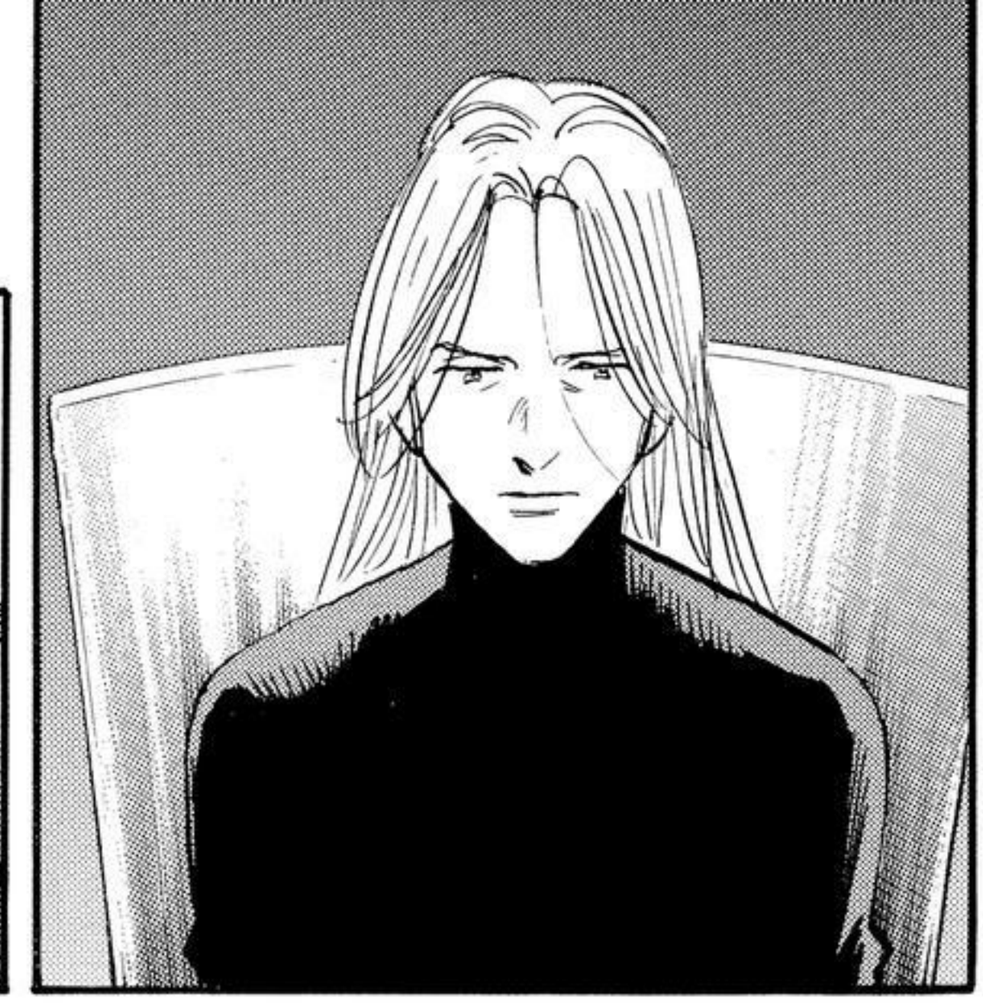
WE BELIEVE THAT THEY ARE FROM A ROBOT ORIGINALLY MADE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT THAT MAY HAVE BEEN DIVERTED TO MILITARY USE.

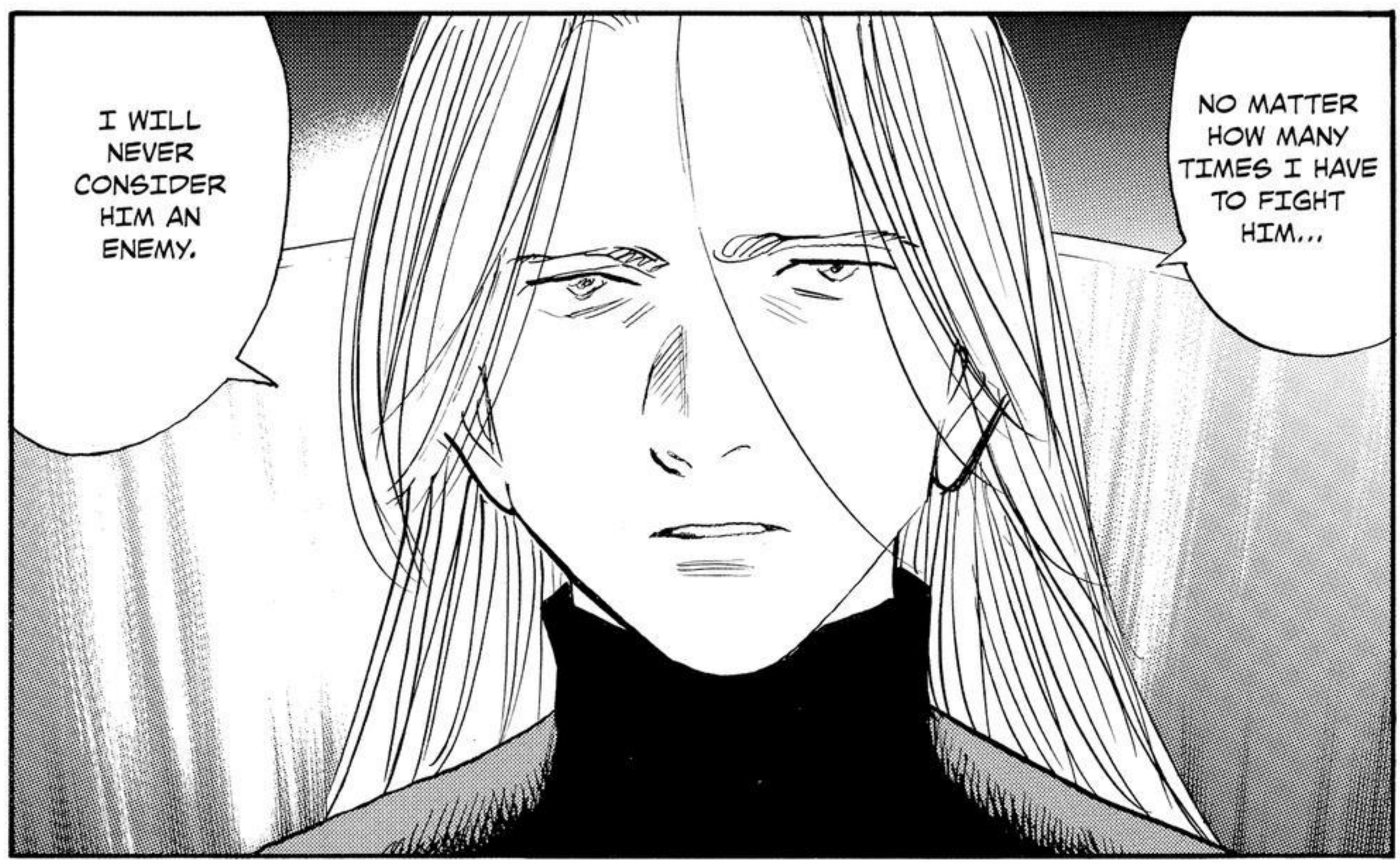


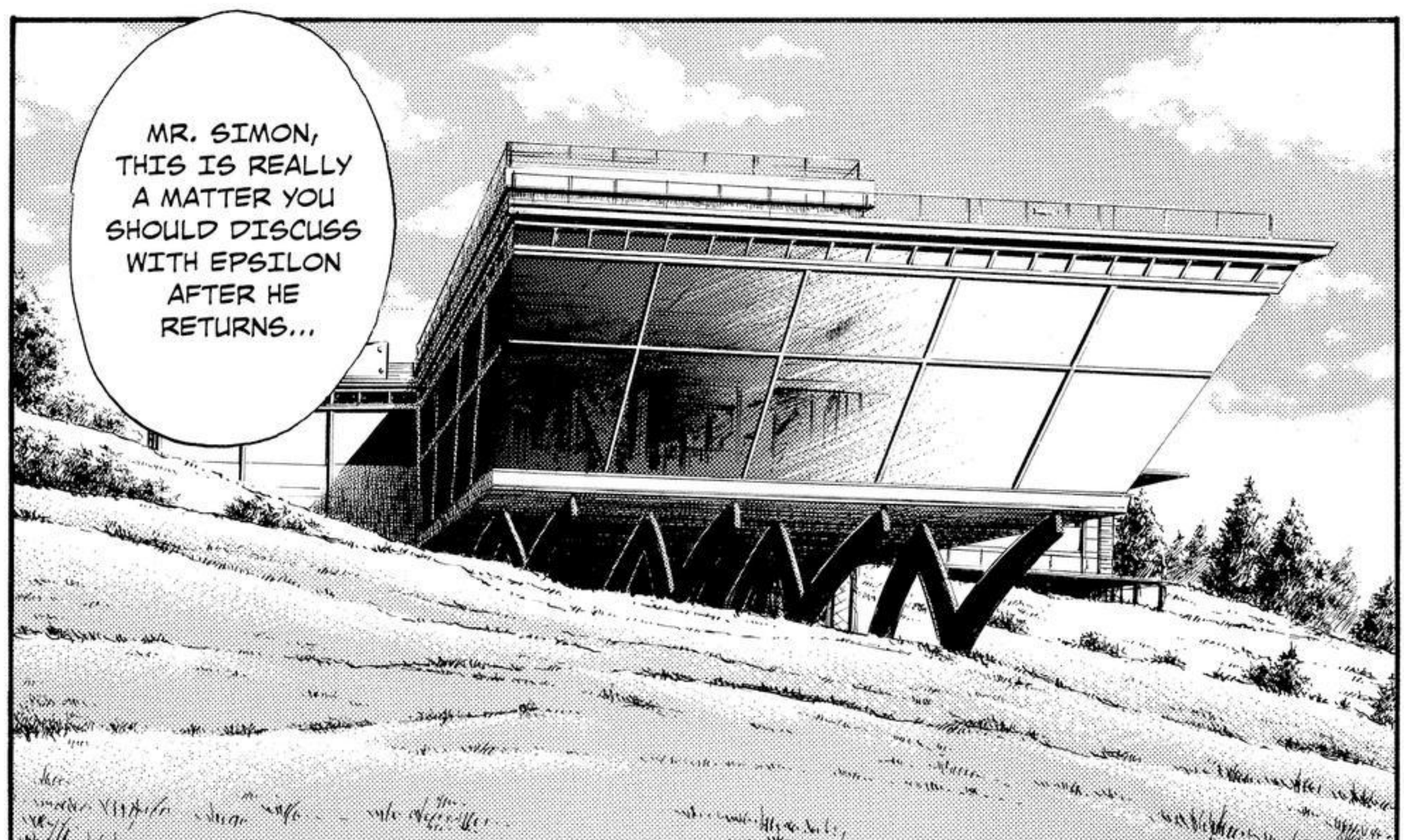






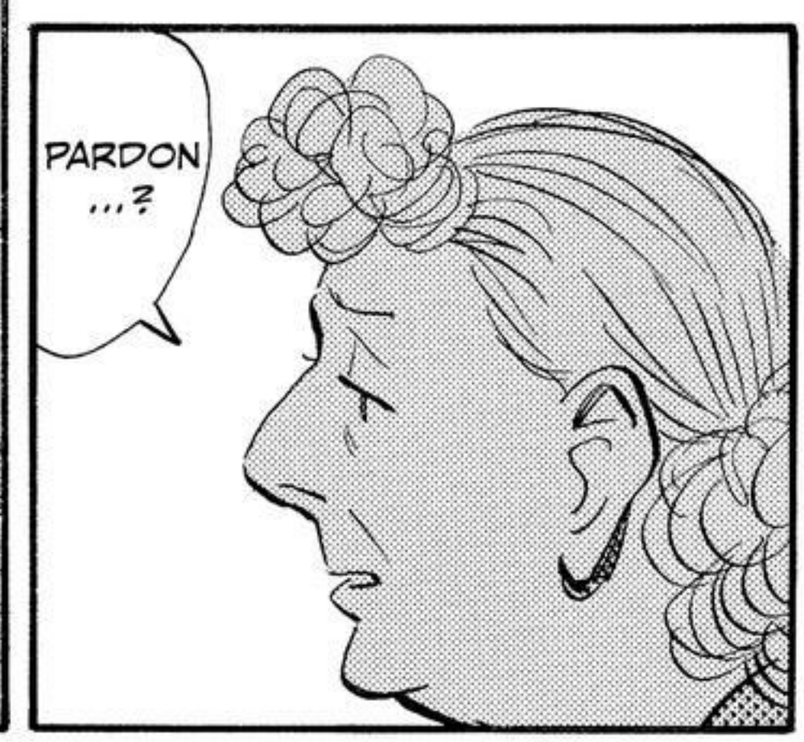


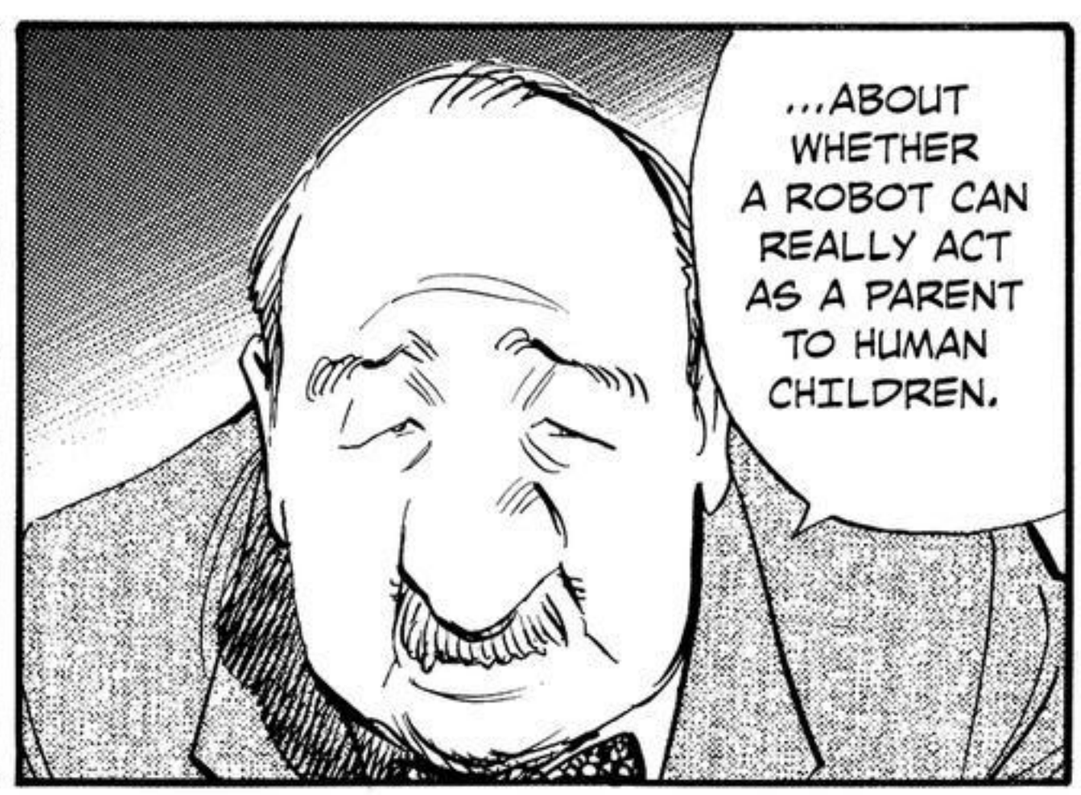

I WILL NEVER CONSIDER HIM AN ENEMY.
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I HAVE TO FIGHT HIM...

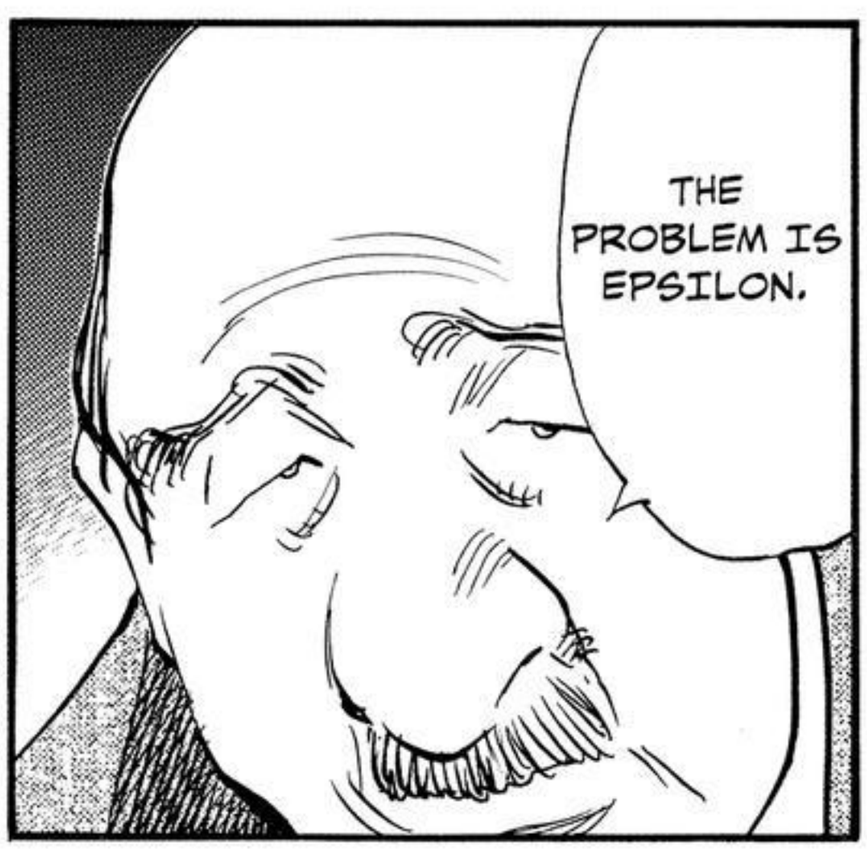

MR. SIMON, THIS IS REALLY A MATTER YOU SHOULD DISCUSS WITH EPSILON AFTER HE RETURNS...

I'M SURE YOU'RE QUITE AWARE OF WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT THIS FOSTER HOME...

AH, BUT THIS IS EXACTLY WHY WE'RE HERE TODAY, MS. GRIFFITH.


PARDON ...?


...ABOUT WHETHER A ROBOT CAN REALLY ACT AS A PARENT TO HUMAN CHILDREN.


THE PROBLEM IS EPSILON.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND, MS. GRIFFITH, WE HAVE NO ISSUE WITH YOU, A LICENSED HUMAN CHILD-CARE WORKER...

...IS IN HIS BEST INTEREST?
...DO YOU REALLY THINK DENYING HIM THE CHANCE TO BE ADOPTED BY A PROPER HUMAN FAMILY...

JUST BECAUSE THE BOY HIMSELF MIGHT'VE OBJECTED, MA'AM...
BUT EPSILON THINKS MORE OF THESE CHILDREN THAN ANY HUMAN!!

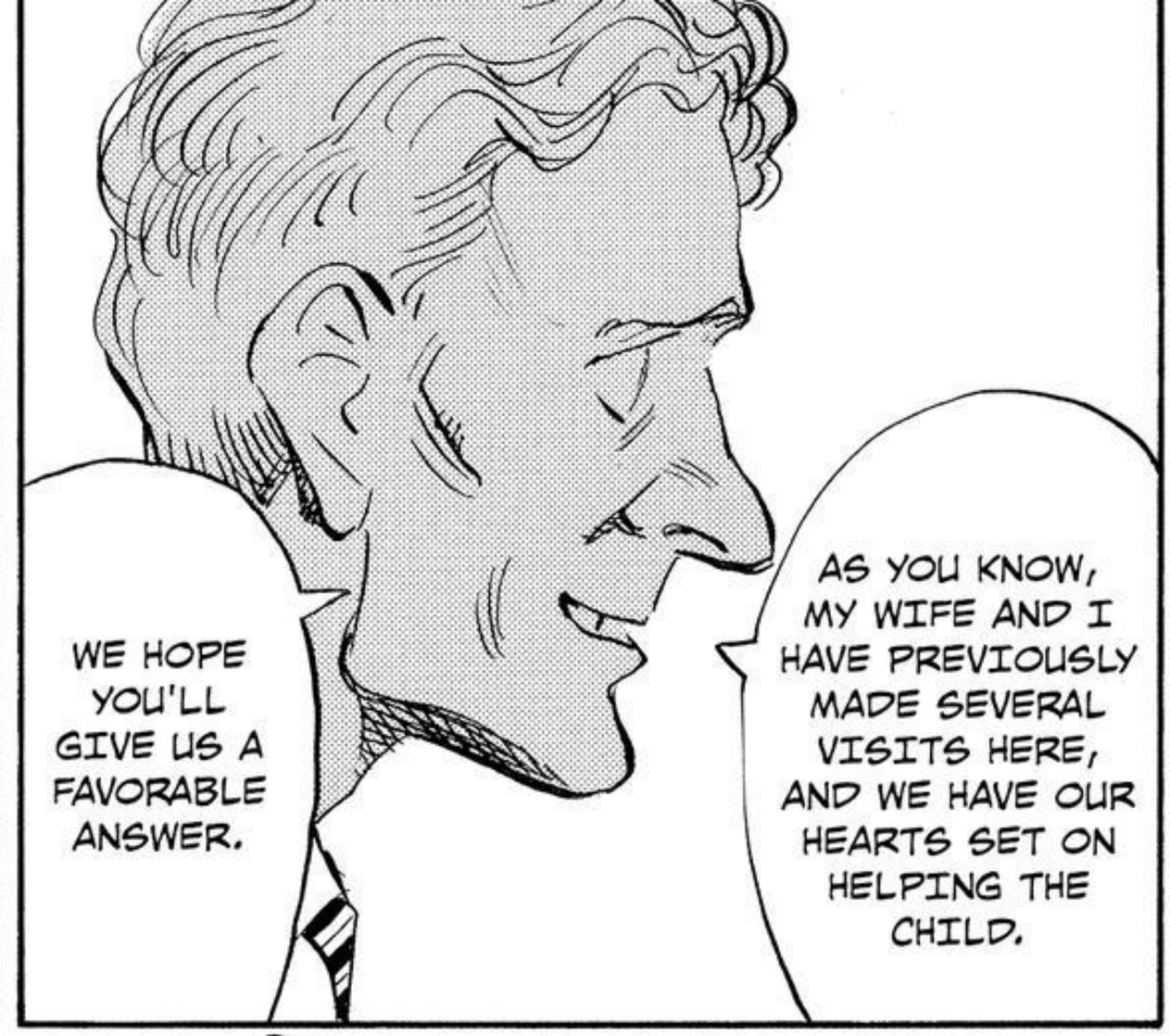
ONCE HE'S IN MY CARE, I'LL MAKE SURE HE'LL BE WELL LOOKED AFTER FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE.
YES, MA'AM.

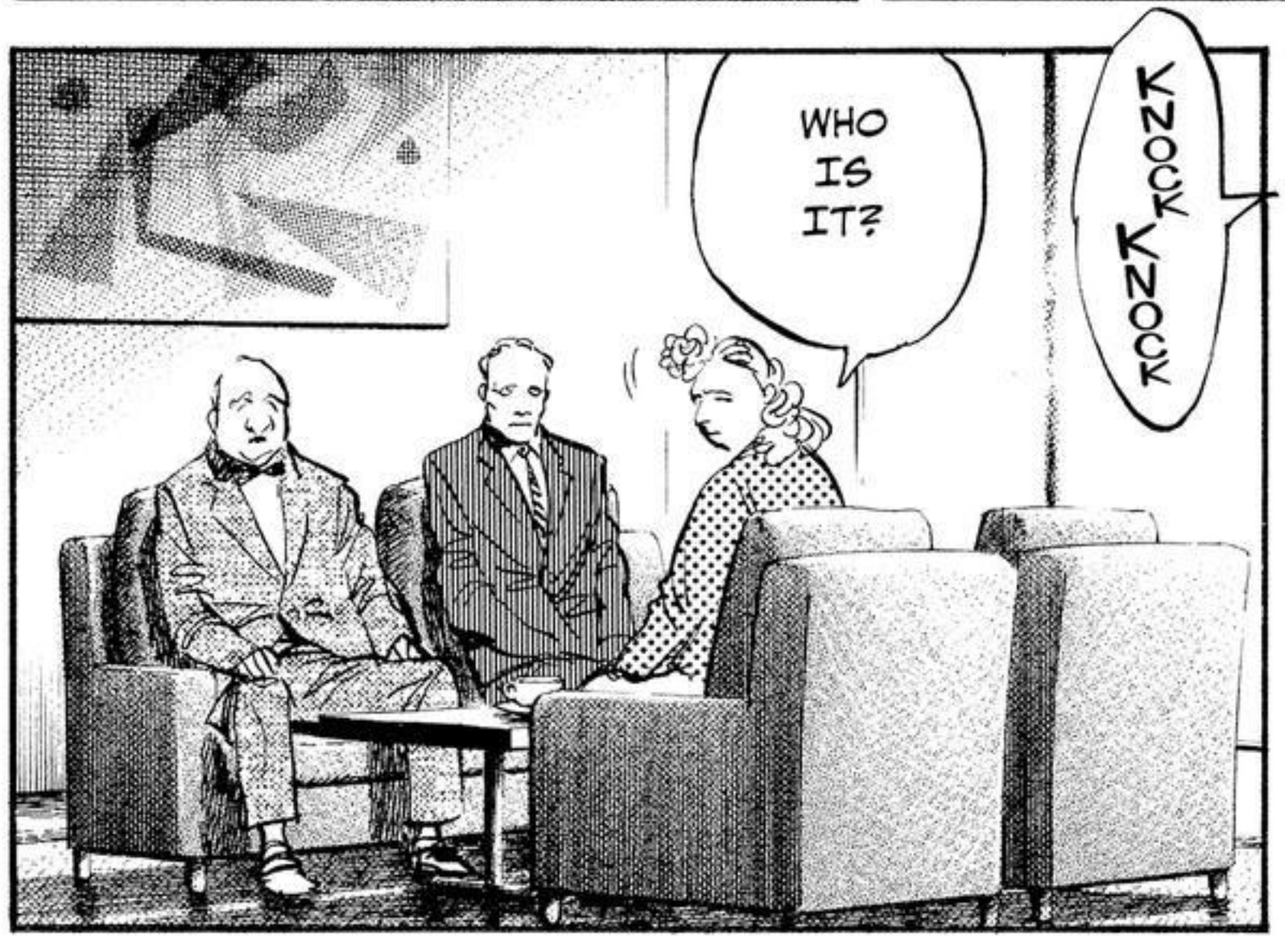
...

WE HAVE A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY HERE WITH MR. JOHANSEN, WHO IS EMINENTLY QUALIFIED TO RAISE HIM...

BUT SHE'S VERY BUSY PREPARING FOR THE OPENING OF A NEW HOSPITAL IN OSLO... IN FACT, I TOO MUST FLY BACK TOMORROW.
ACTUALLY, MY WIFE AND I WOULD NORMALLY BE MAKING THIS REQUEST TOGETHER...

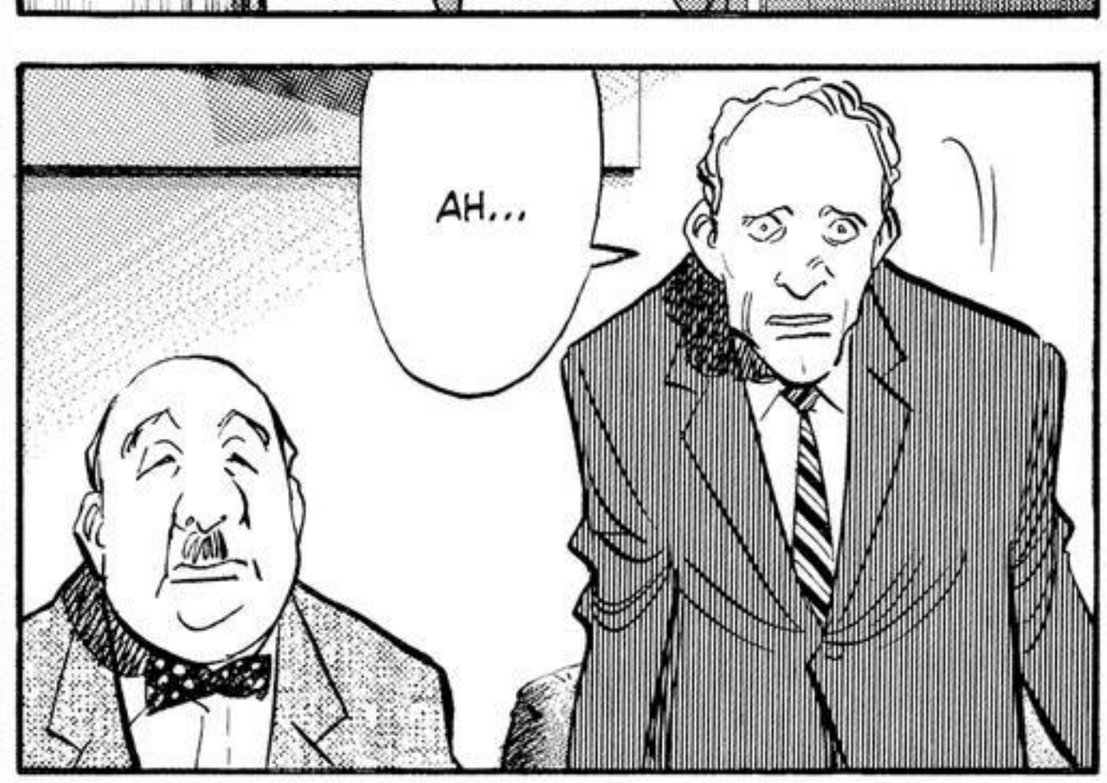
...

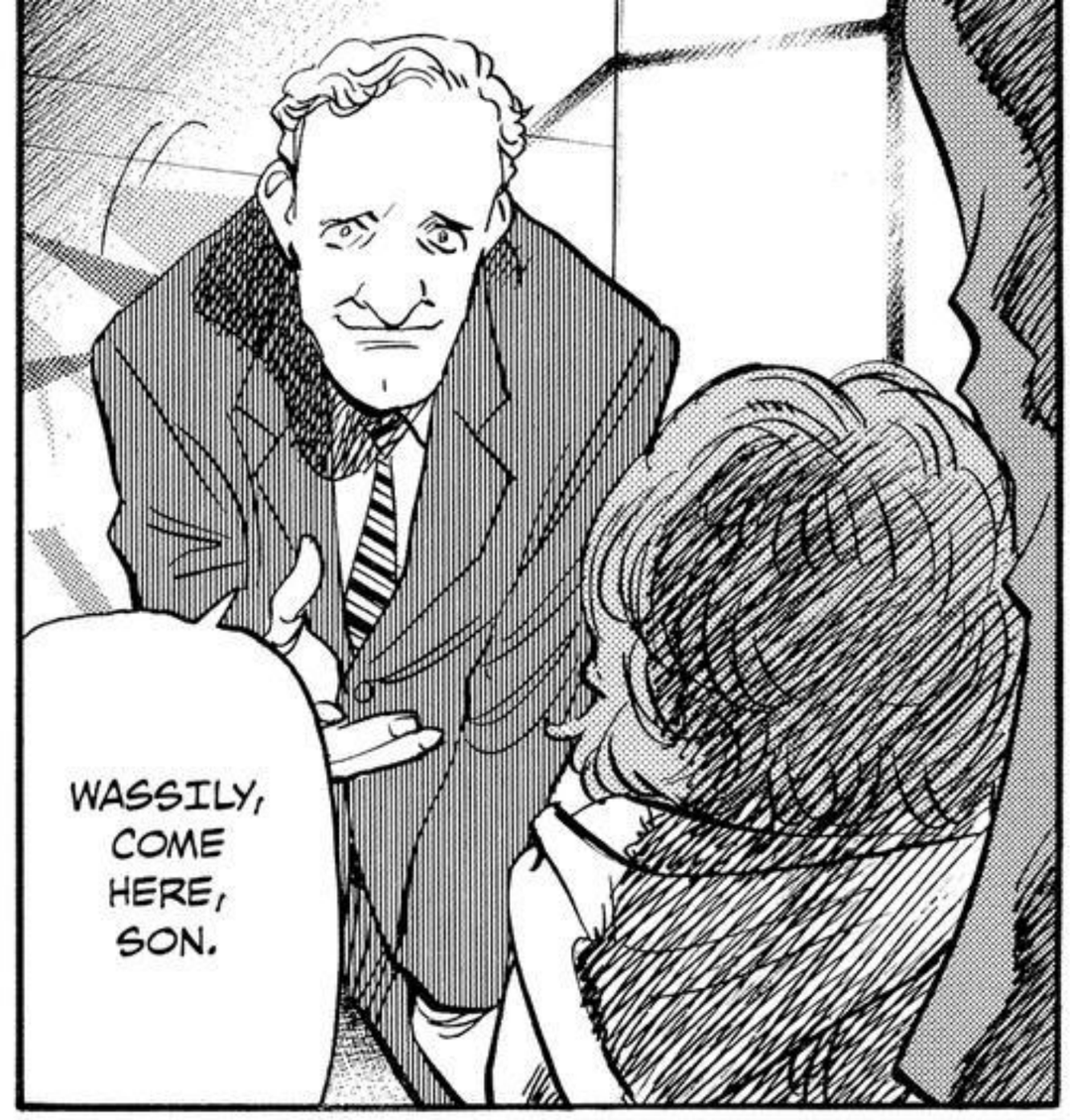

WE HOPE YOU'LL GIVE US A FAVORABLE ANSWER.
AS YOU KNOW, MY WIFE AND I HAVE PREVIOUSLY MADE SEVERAL VISITS HERE, AND WE HAVE OUR HEARTS SET ON HELPING THE CHILD.


WHO IS IT?
KNOCK KNOCK

BUT THIS BOY IN PARTICULAR IS...
BUT...

HERE HE IS...

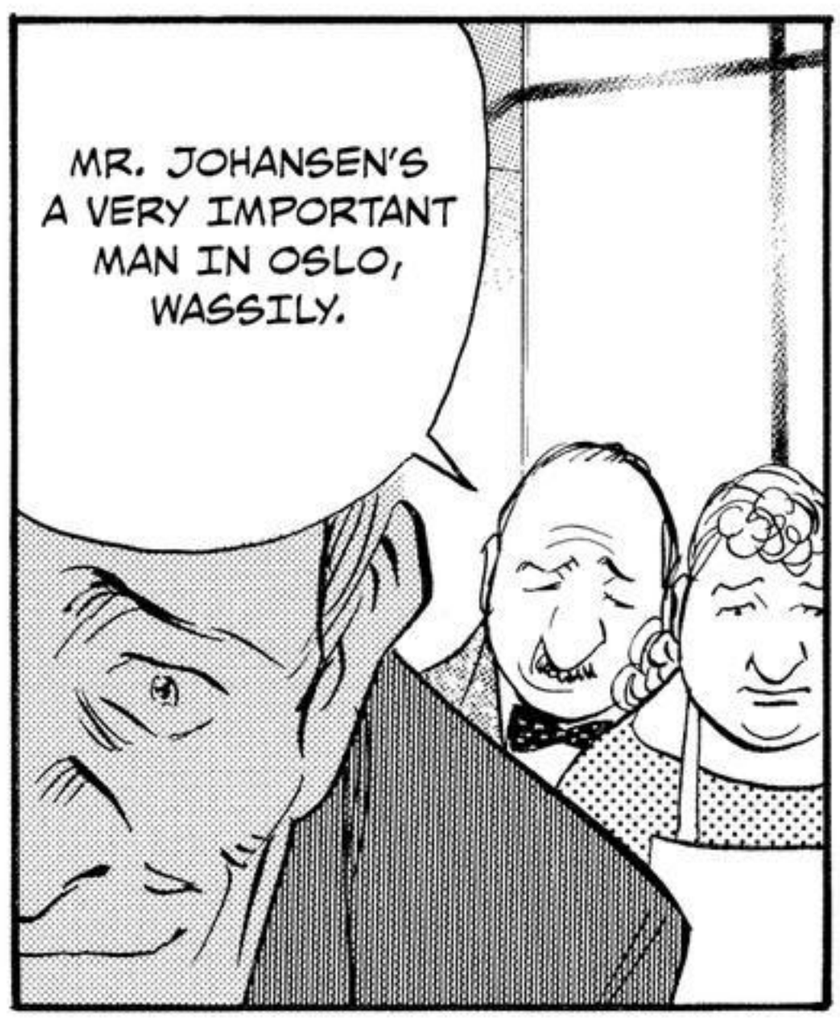

AH...

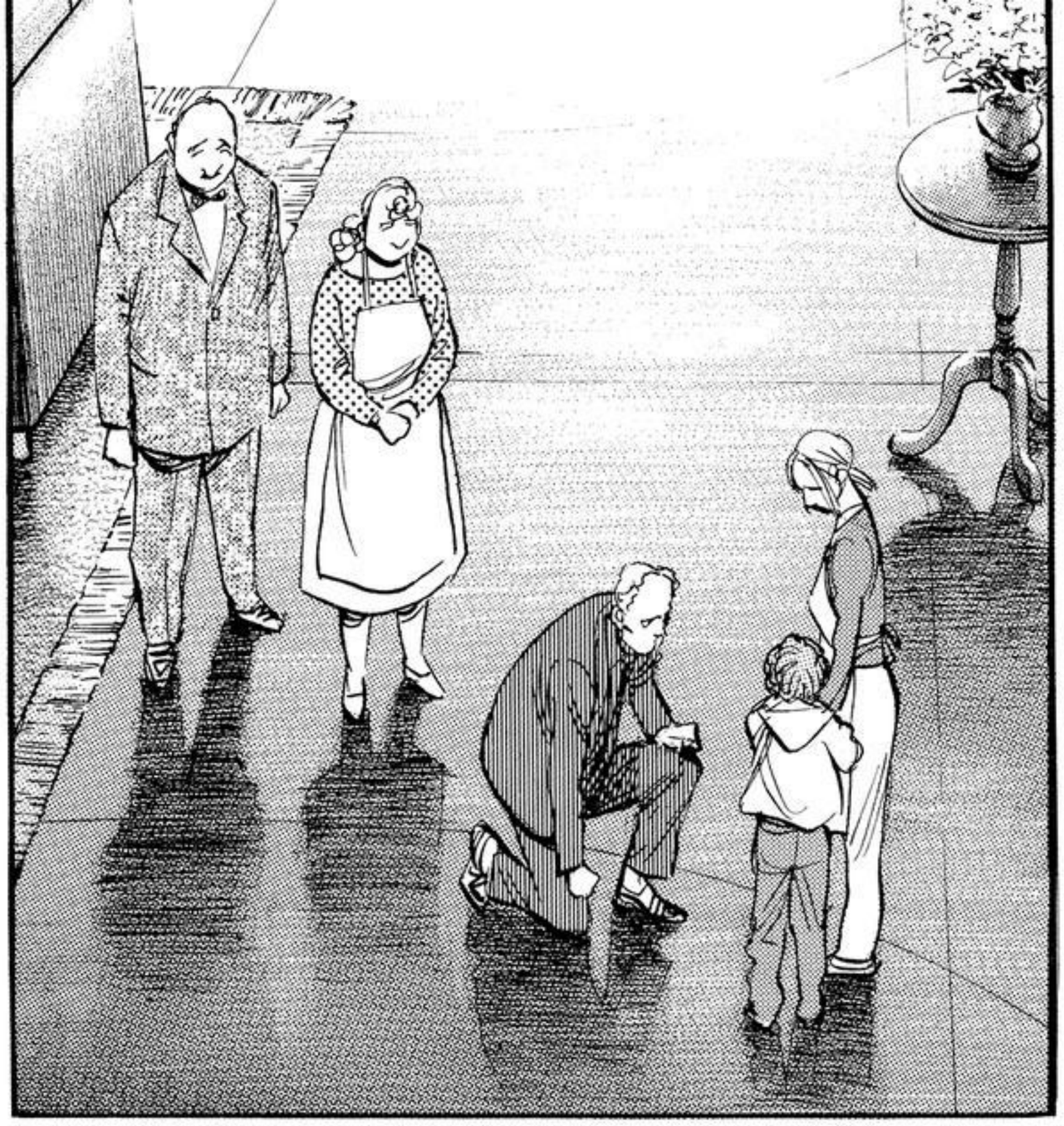

WASSILY, COME HERE, SON.

IT'S ALL RIGHT. DON'T BE AFRAID.
SAY, WASSILY... HAVE YOU EVER SEEN SNOW?

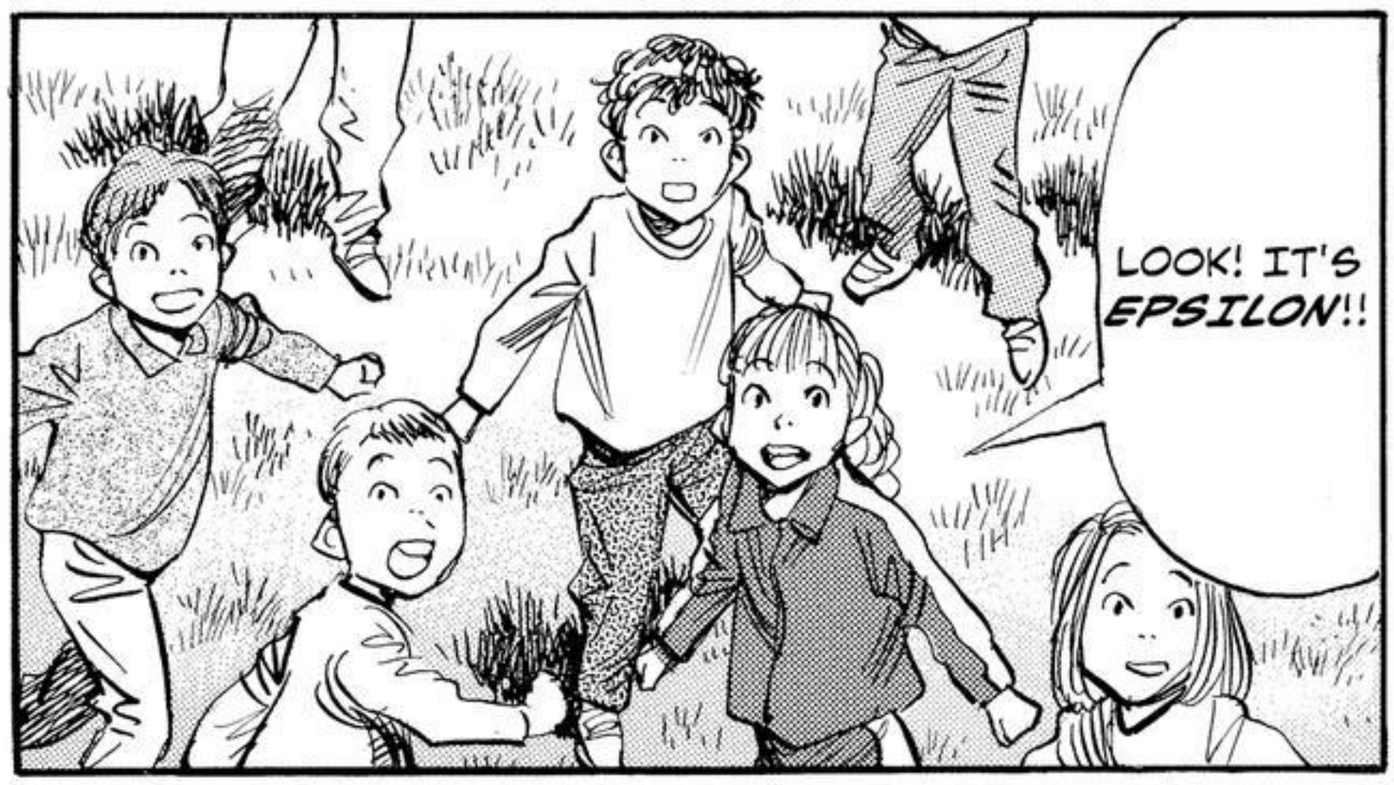
WASSILY ...

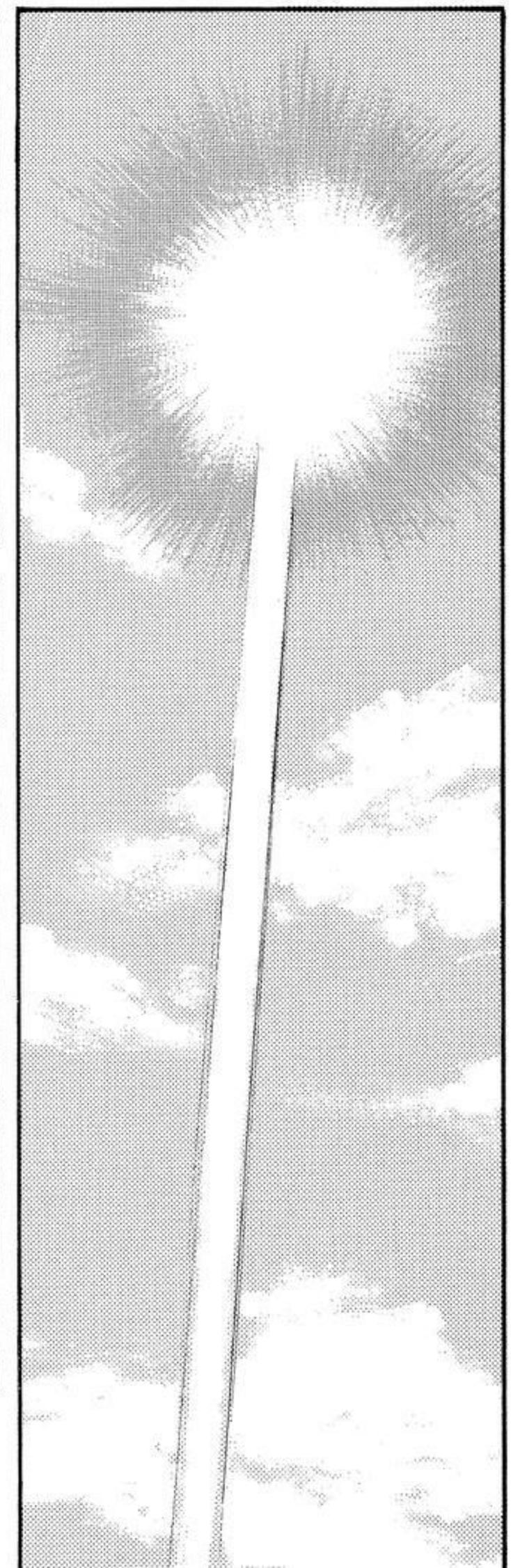
AND HE'S ALSO OFFERED TO MAKE A VERY SUBSTANTIAL DONATION TO THIS FACILITY...


MR. JOHANSEN'S A VERY IMPORTANT MAN IN OSLO, WASSILY.



WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO GO SEE SOME SNOW WITH ME?

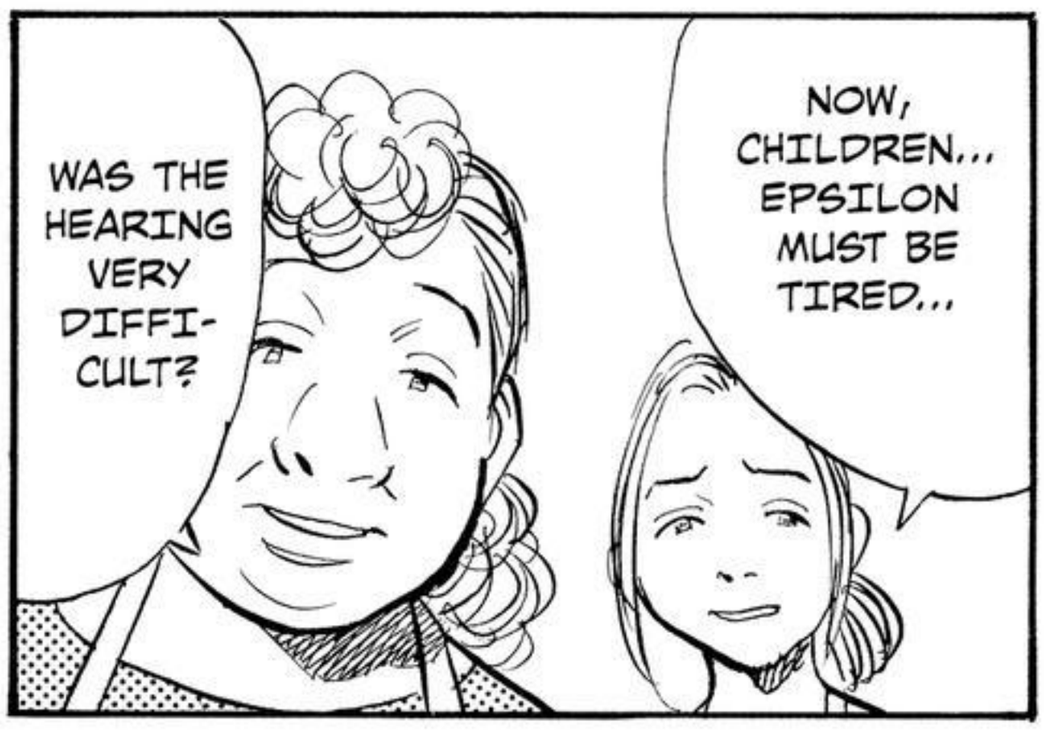

LOOK! IT'S *EPSILON*!!

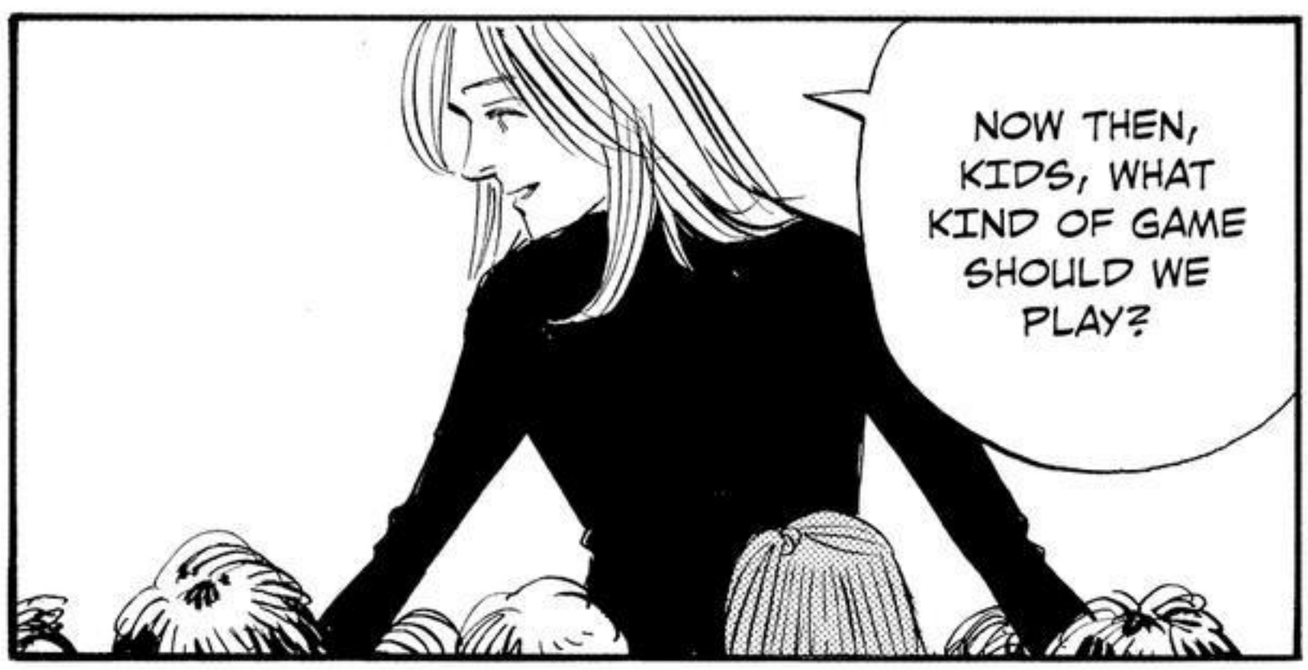


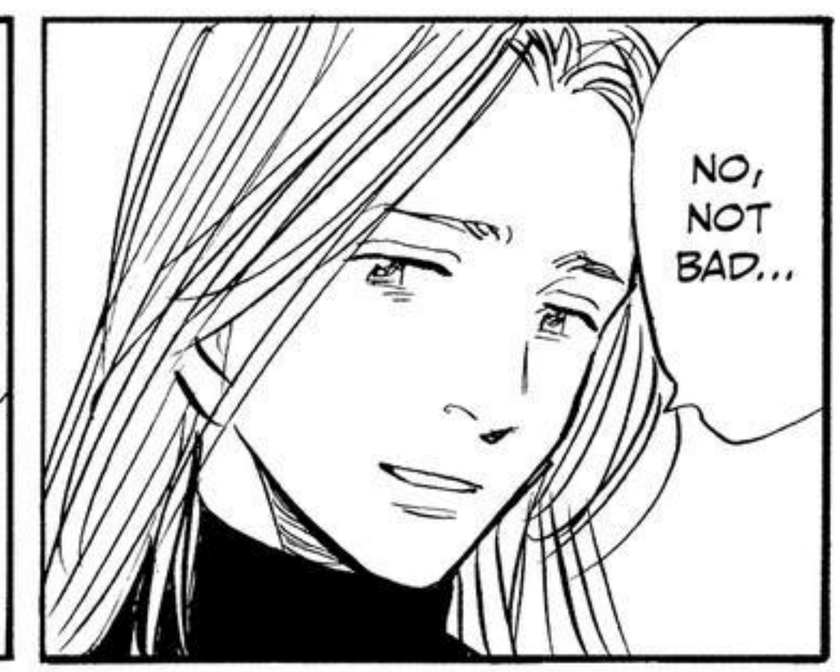
YAY! YOU'RE BACK!
WELCOME HOME, EPSILON!!

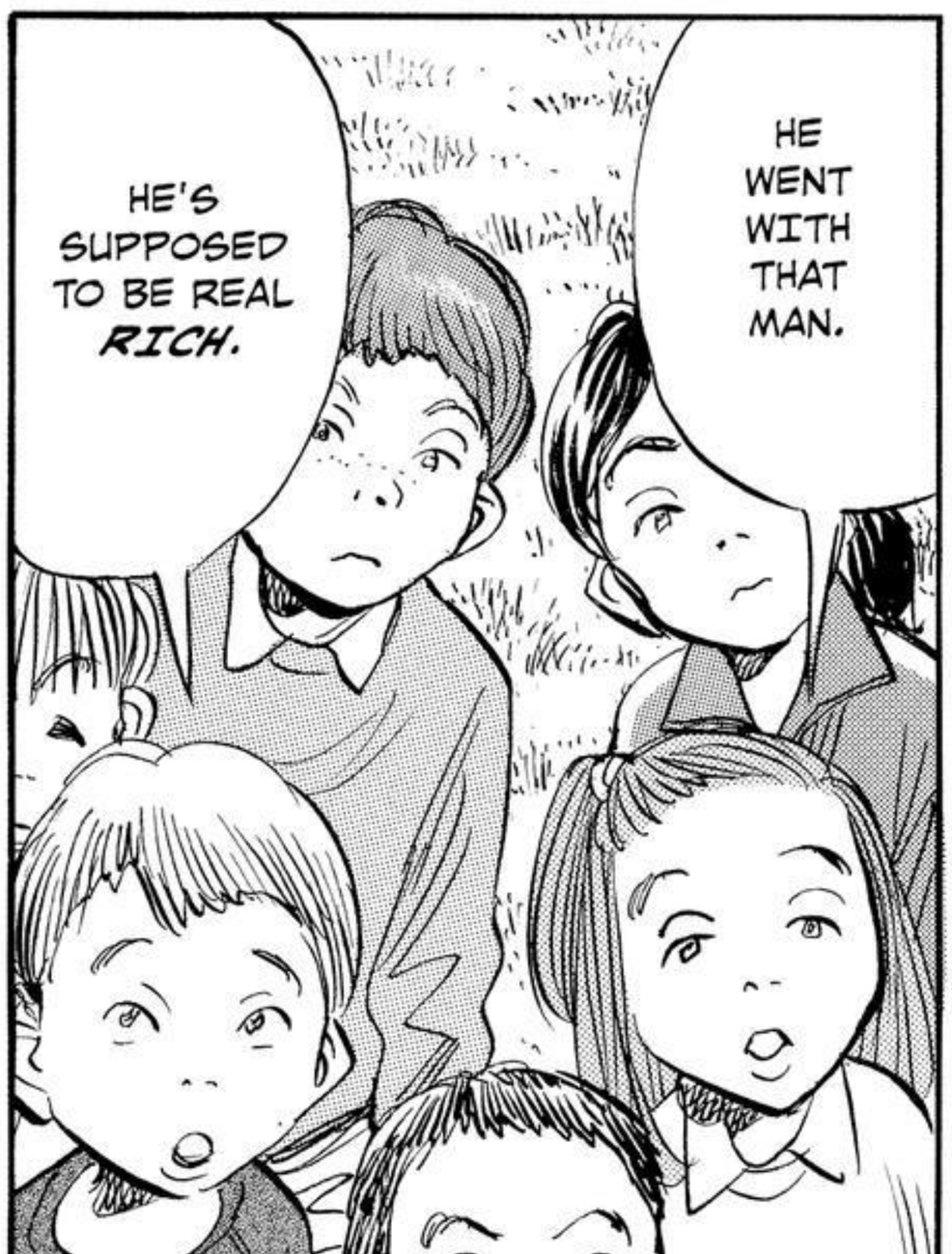
WHOA! THERE'S ONLY ONE OF ME, AND I CAN'T DO EVERYTHING AT ONCE!

NO, LET'S PLAY *TAG*!
READ US A STORY, EPSILON!
LET'S PLAY, EPSILON!!

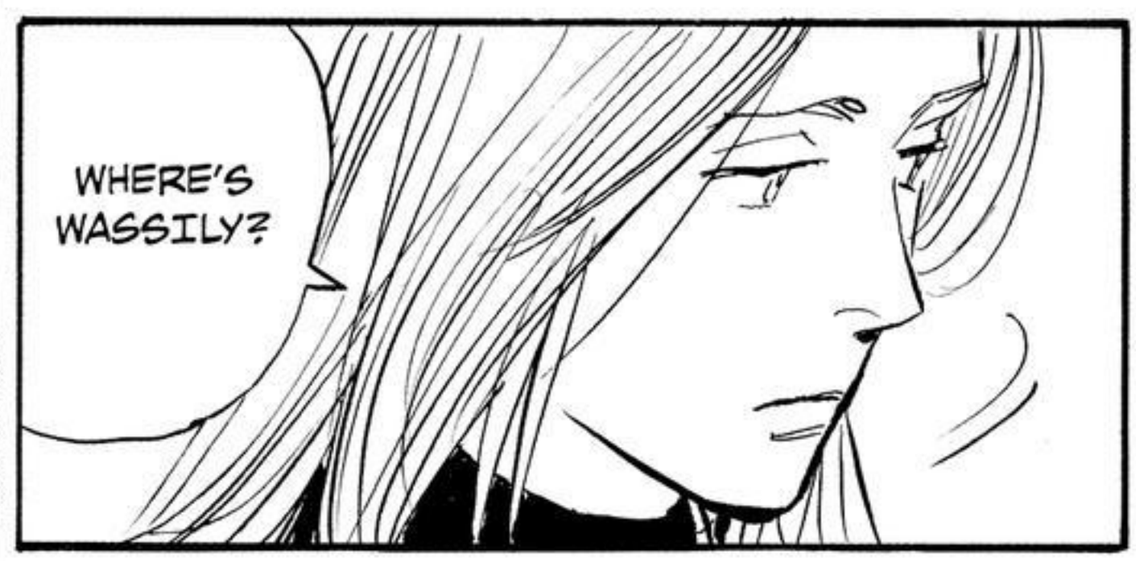

WAS THE HEARING VERY DIFFI-CULT?
NOW, CHILDREN... EPSILON MUST BE TIRED...

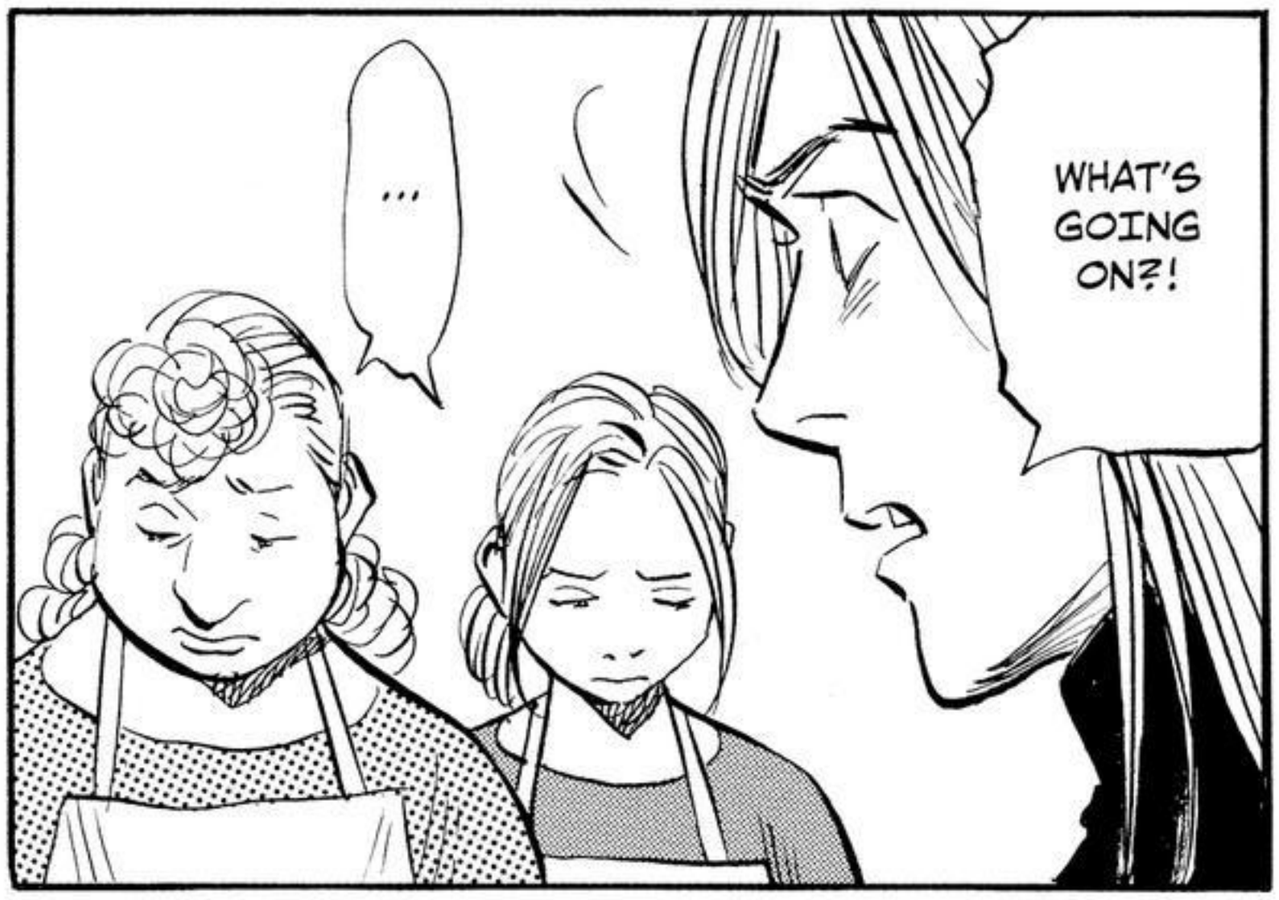

NOW THEN, KIDS, WHAT KIND OF GAME SHOULD WE PLAY?

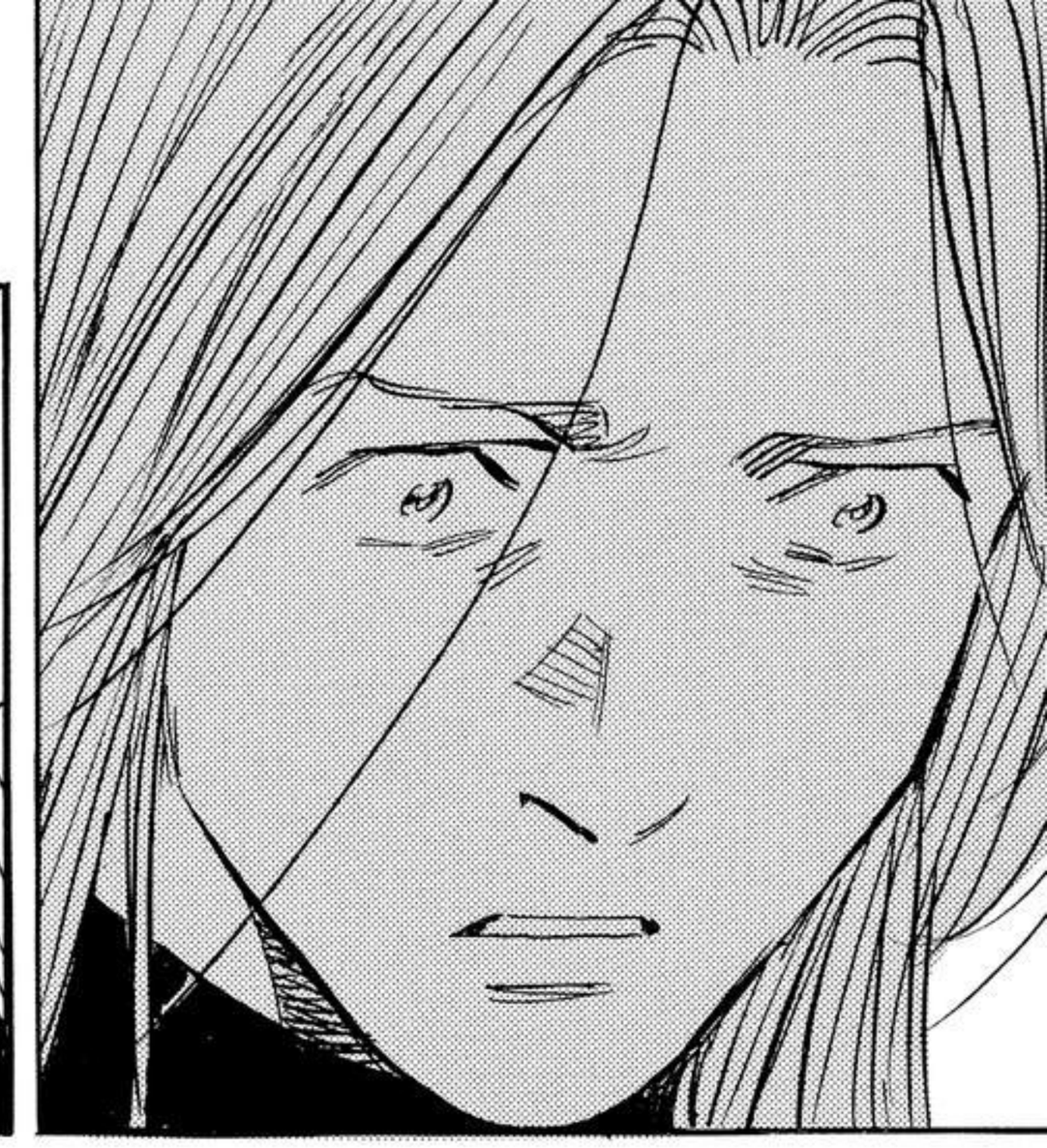

NO, NOT BAD...

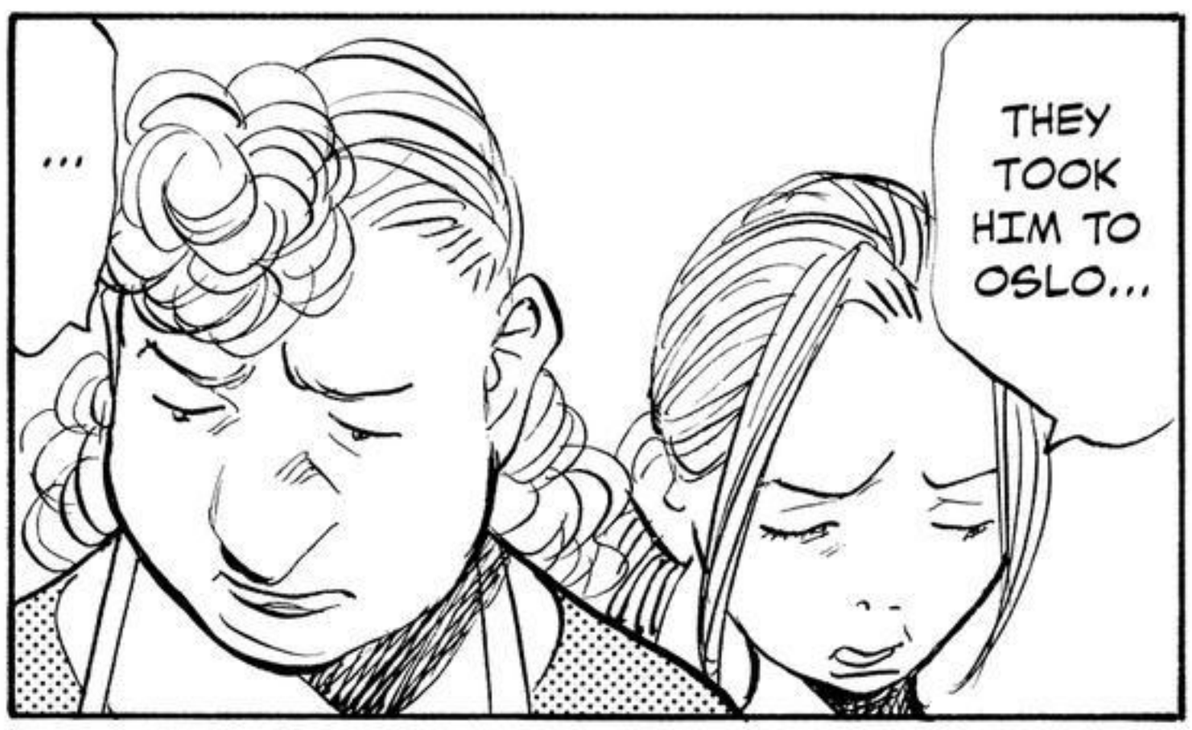

HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE REAL *RICH*.
HE WENT WITH THAT MAN.

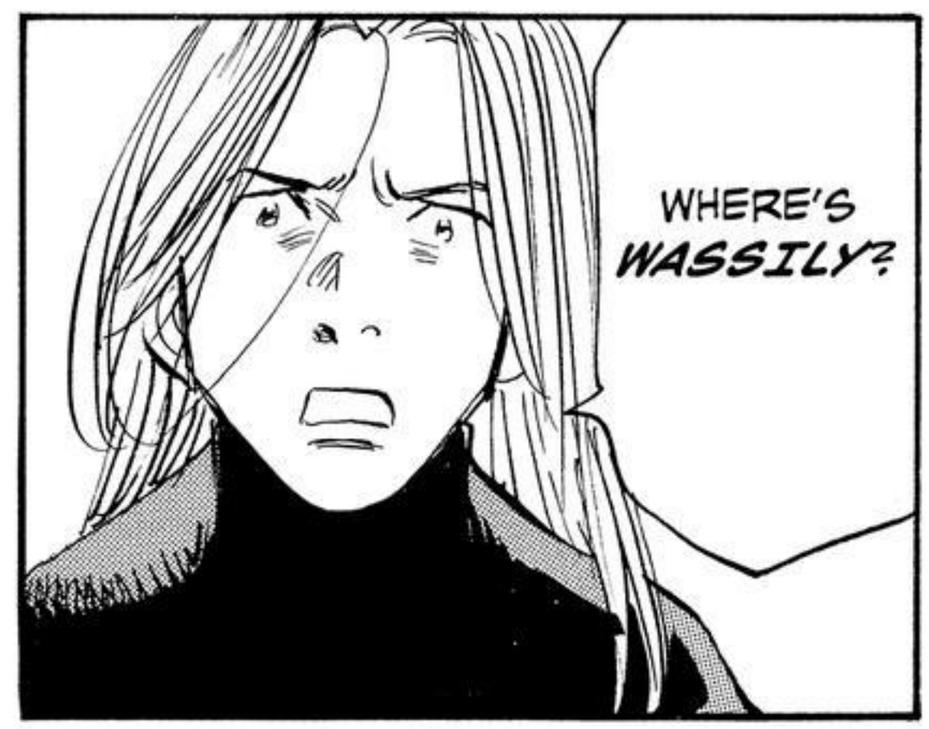
?

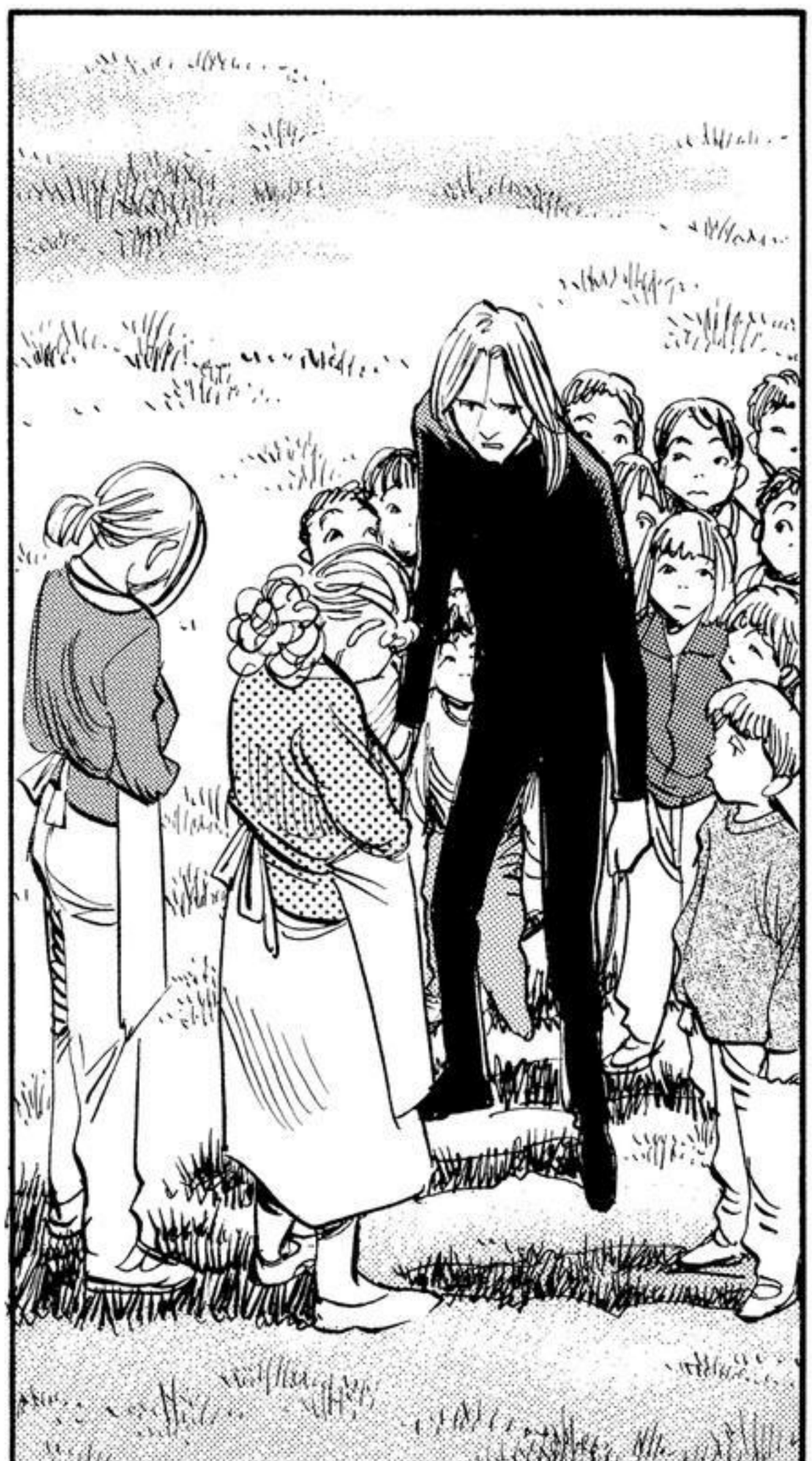

WHERE'S WASSILY?

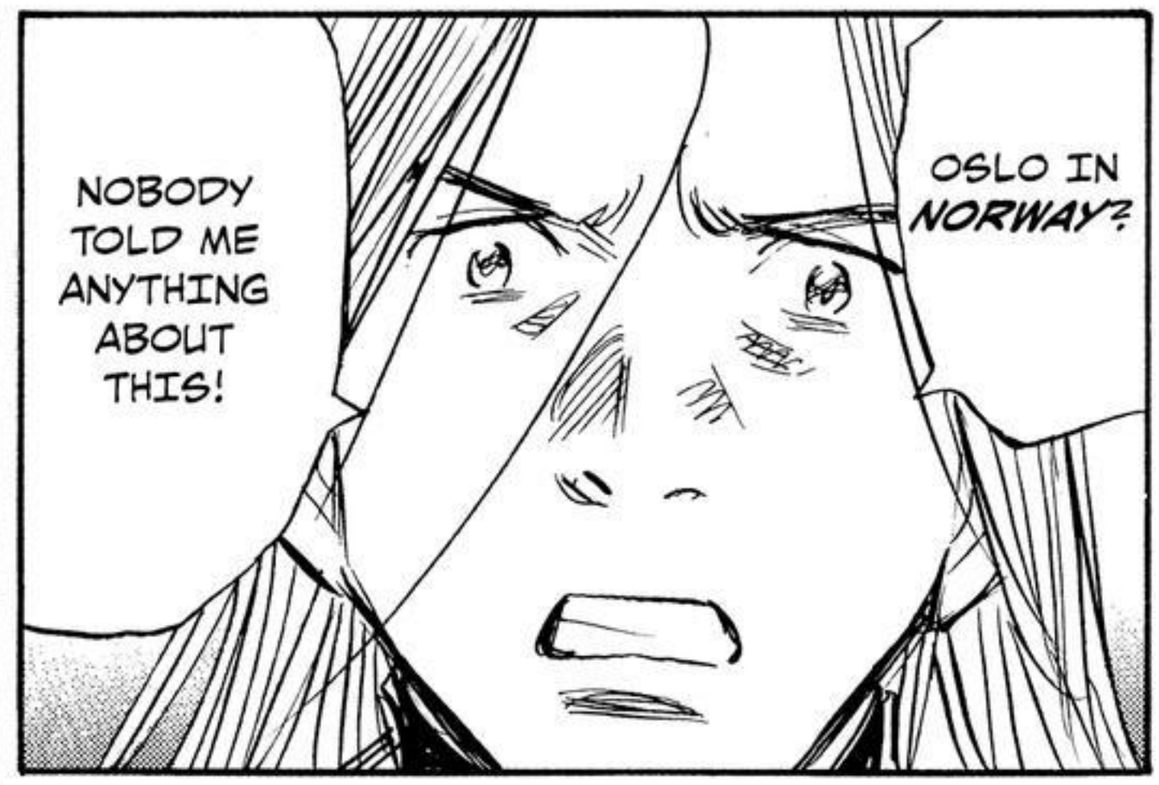

...
WHAT'S GOING ON?!




...
THEY TOOK HIM TO OSLO...

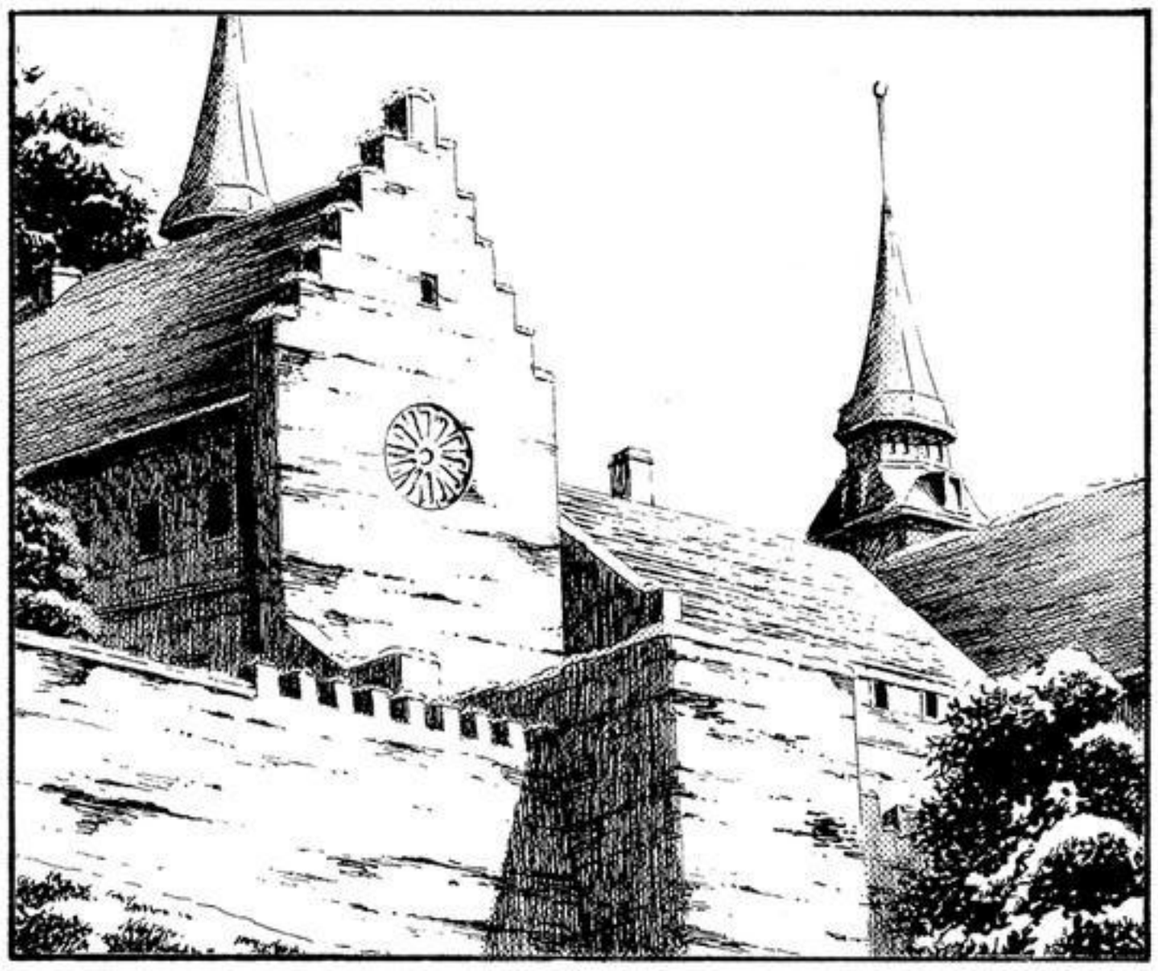

WHERE'S *WASSILY*?

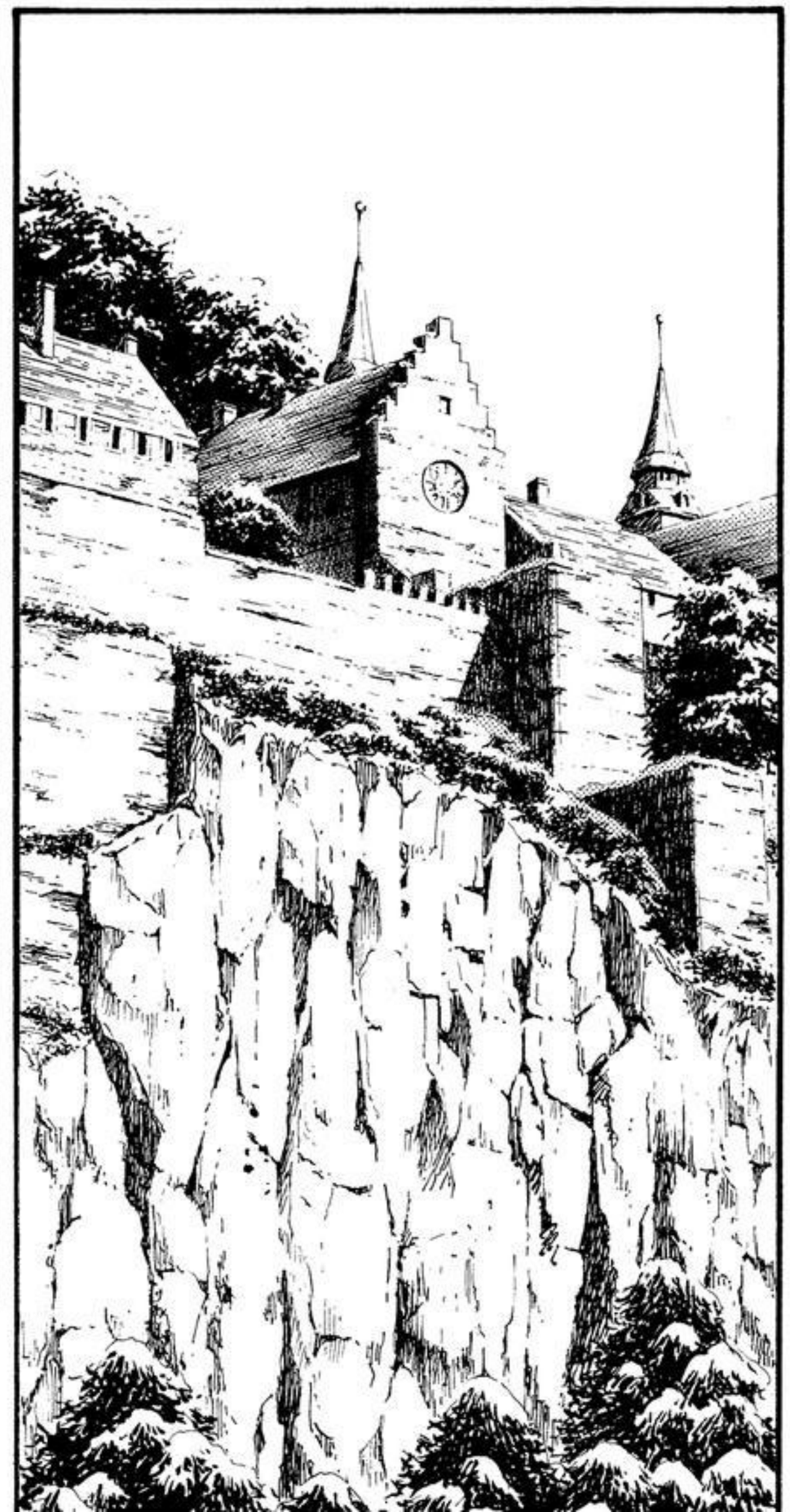


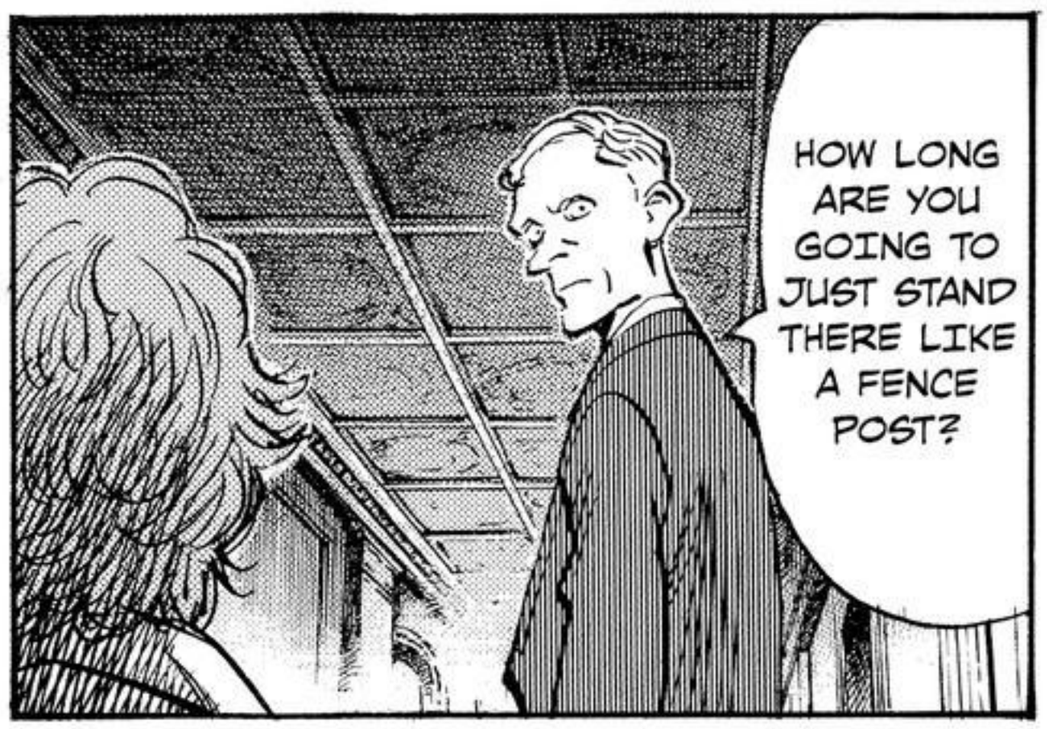

NOBODY TOLD ME ANYTHING ABOUT THIS!
OSLO IN *NORWAY*?

WE HAD NO CHOICE, EPSILON...

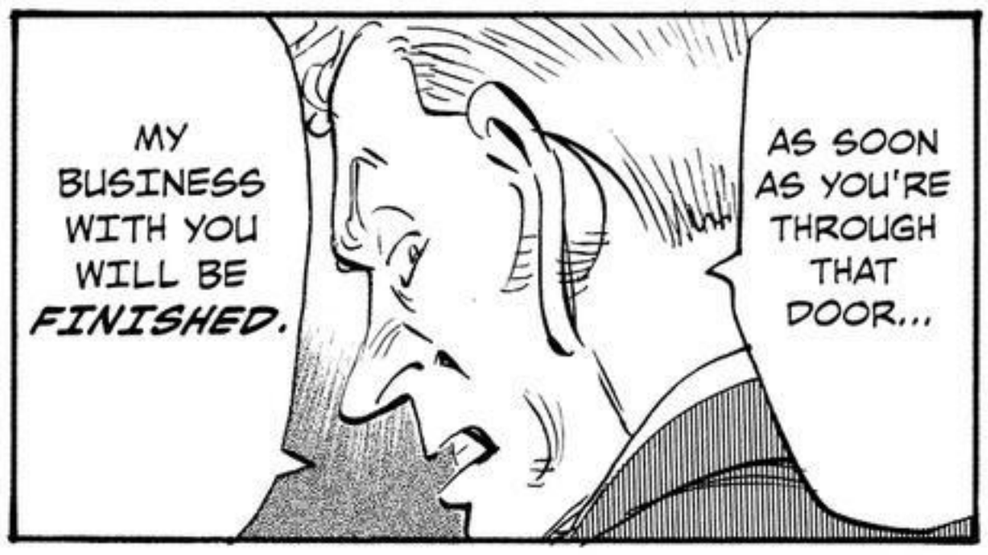
OSLO,
NORWAY






HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO JUST STAND THERE LIKE A FENCE POST?

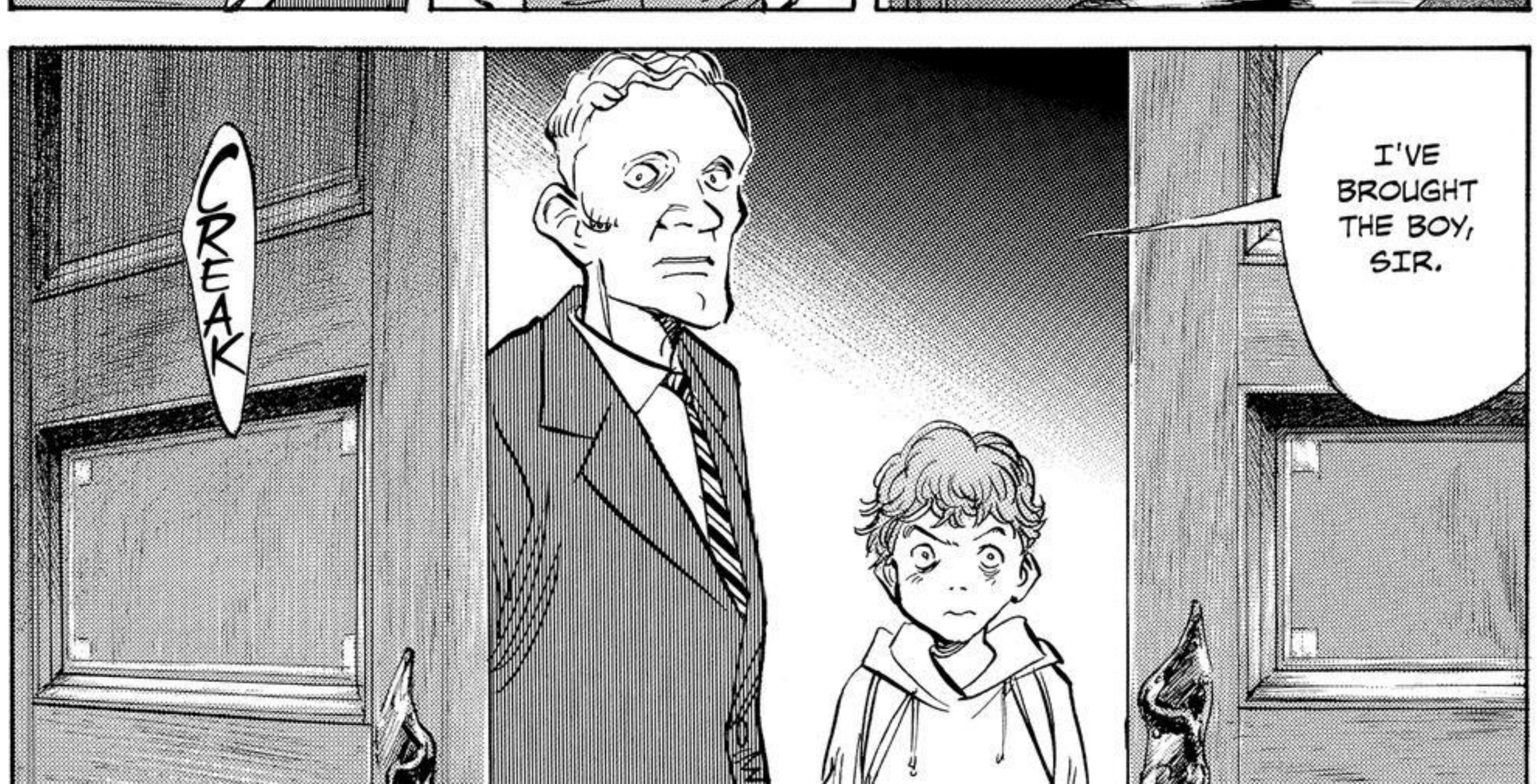
AND HE'S ALSO OFFERED TO MAKE A VERY SUBSTANTIAL DONATION TO THIS FACILITY...

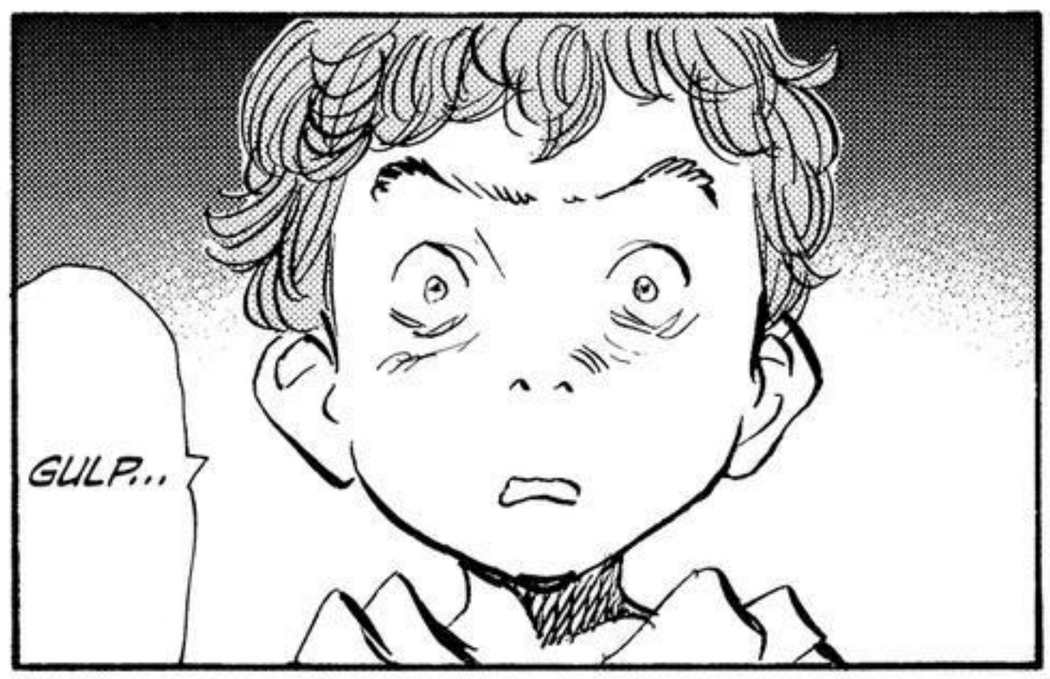

MY BUSINESS WITH YOU WILL BE *FINISHED.*
AS SOON AS YOU'RE THROUGH THAT DOOR...

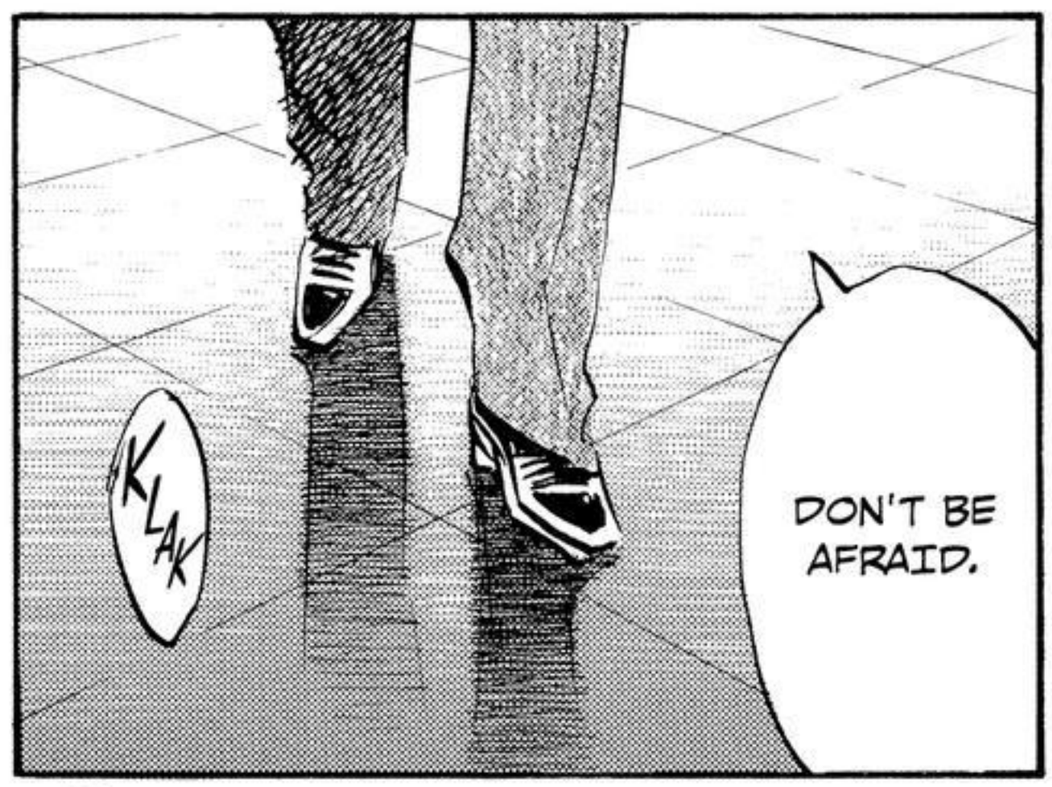
WHAP
AND I DON'T NEED TO HOLD YOUR GRUBBY MITTS ANYMORE!

I SAID *HURRY UP*!

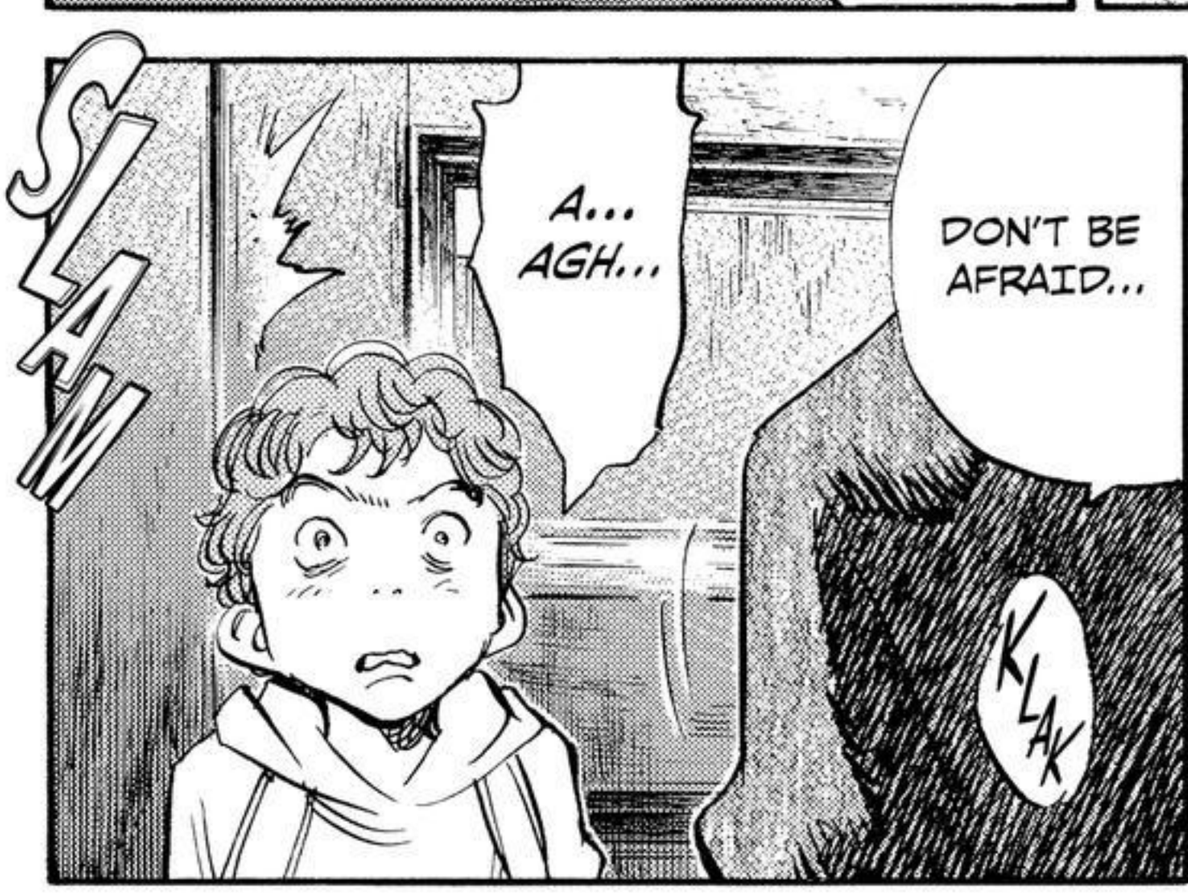
QUIT TAKING UP MY TIME, AND GET IN HERE!!


CREAK
I'VE BROUGHT THE BOY, SIR.


GULP...


KLAK
DON'T BE AFRAID.

WHY, I'VE TREATED HIM LIKE FRAGILE MERCHAN-DISE, SIR.
I HOPE YOU'VE BEEN GENTLE WITH HIM, JOHANSEN...


SLAM
A... AGH...
DON'T BE AFRAID...
KLAK

THERE YOU ARE. I'LL BE ON MY WAY, NOW...

BORA ...
B...

BORA! BORA! BORAAAA !!

DON'T BE AFRAID...

I TOLD YOU, THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF!!

MMPH... MMMP...

I'M *WARNING* YOU... DON'T SAY THAT WORD IN SUCH A LOUD VOICE.

IF YOU'VE SEEN BORA, YOU'RE A VERY, *VERY* BAD BOY...

YOU'RE A *BAD BOY*... THAT'S WHY THIS IS HAPPENING TO YOU.

KLAK

KLAK

MMNPH... NNMP...

AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I HEAR...

AND HE'LL COME TO SAVE EVEN A BAD BOY LIKE YOU...

BUT EPSILON'S A REAL SOFTIE... HEH HEH...

GRAHH...

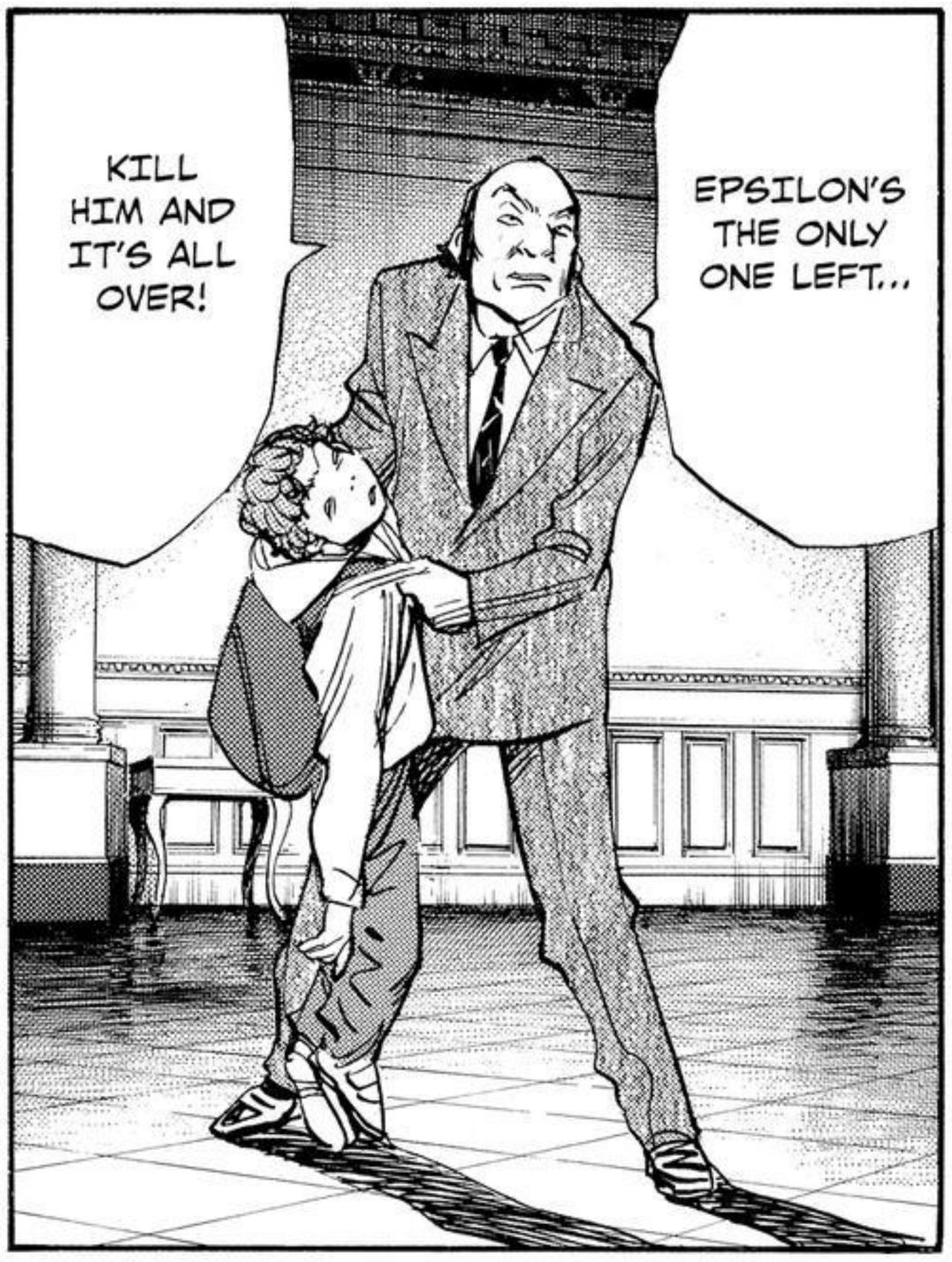
NOW THAT WE'VE GOTTEN THIS FAR, THERE'S NO ROOM FOR FAILURE!

MMPH... MMPH...

MMNNPH...

GRAHH

GRAHH...



EVEN WITH ONLY ONE ARM, YOU *WILL* WIN!

GRR...

GRAA...

GRR...

AND WHEN IT'S ALL OVER...

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, PLUTO?!!

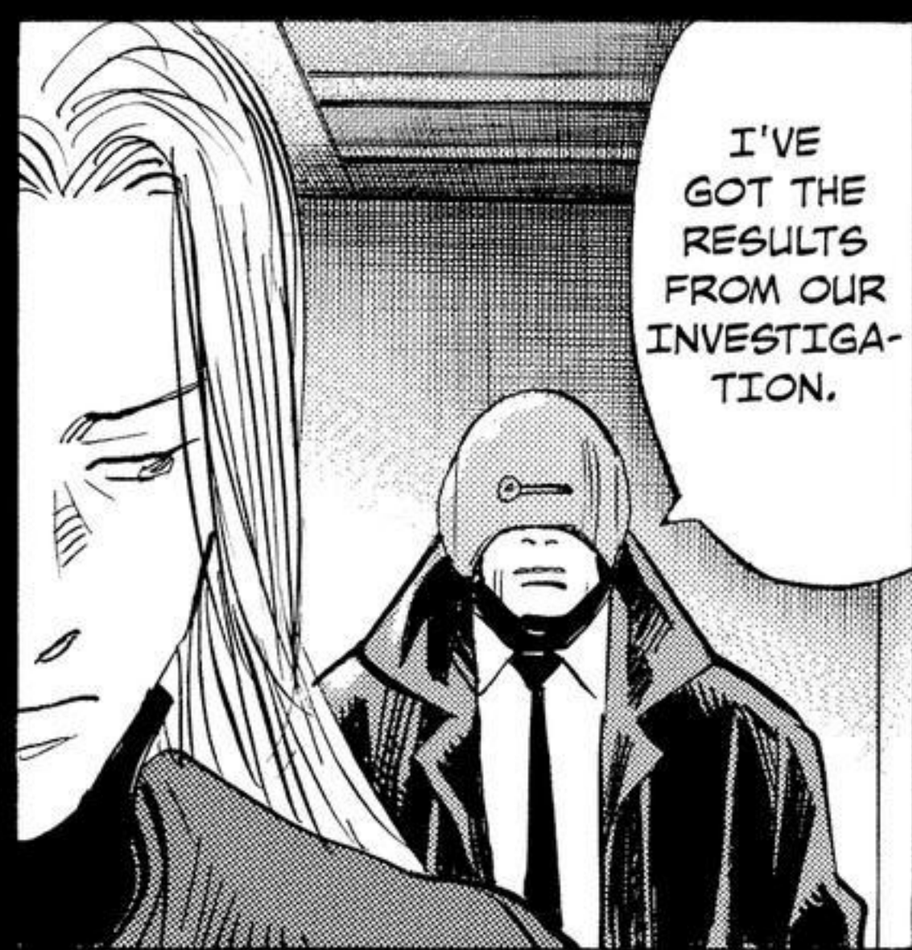
...THE WORLD WILL *REGRET* THE SINS IT HAS COMMITTED!

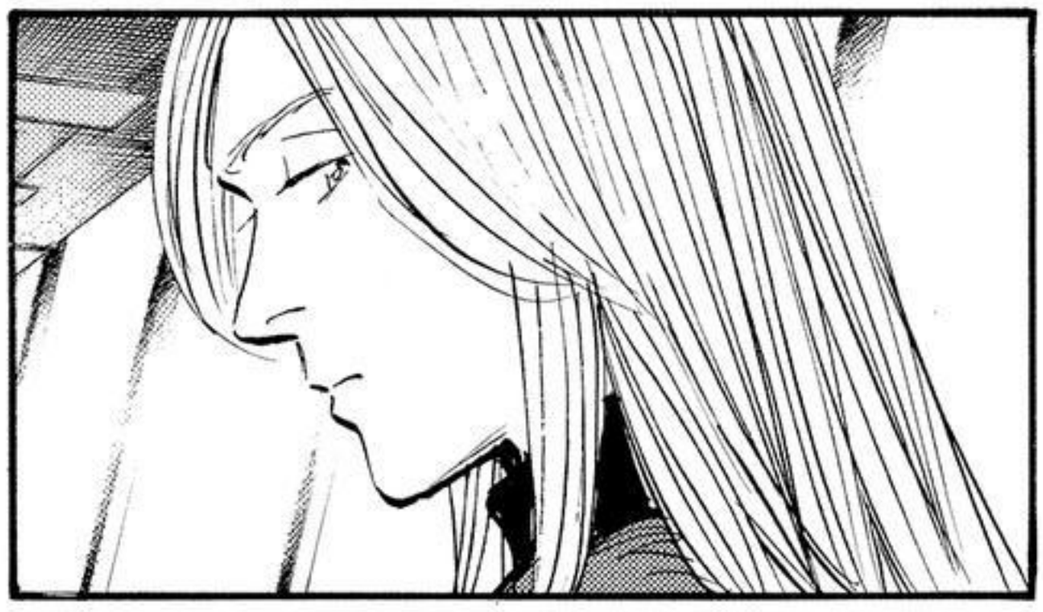
PSHHH

PSHHH

PSHH!
PSHH!

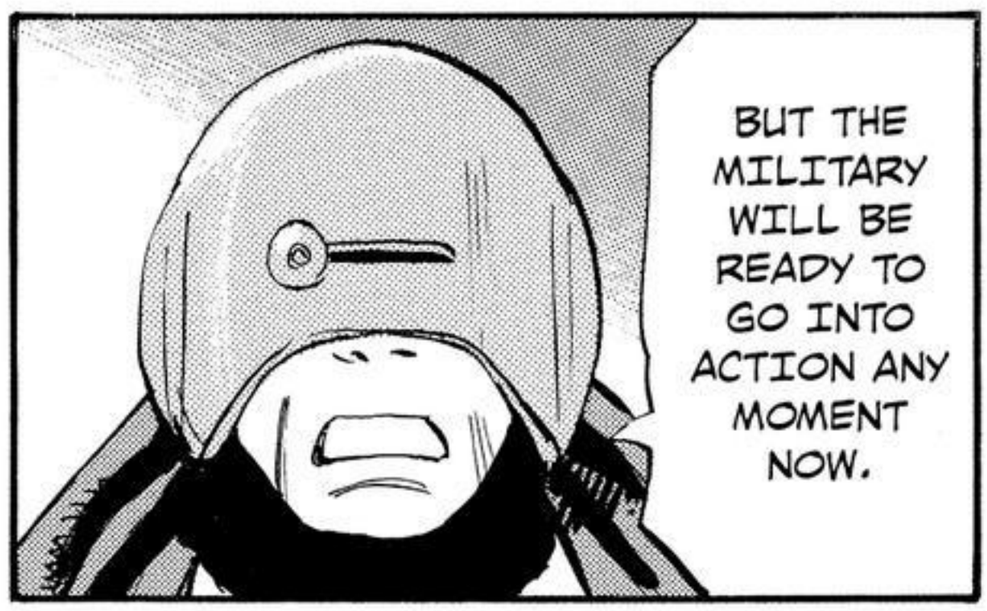
Act 53 SHOWDOWN AT VIGELAND CASTLE

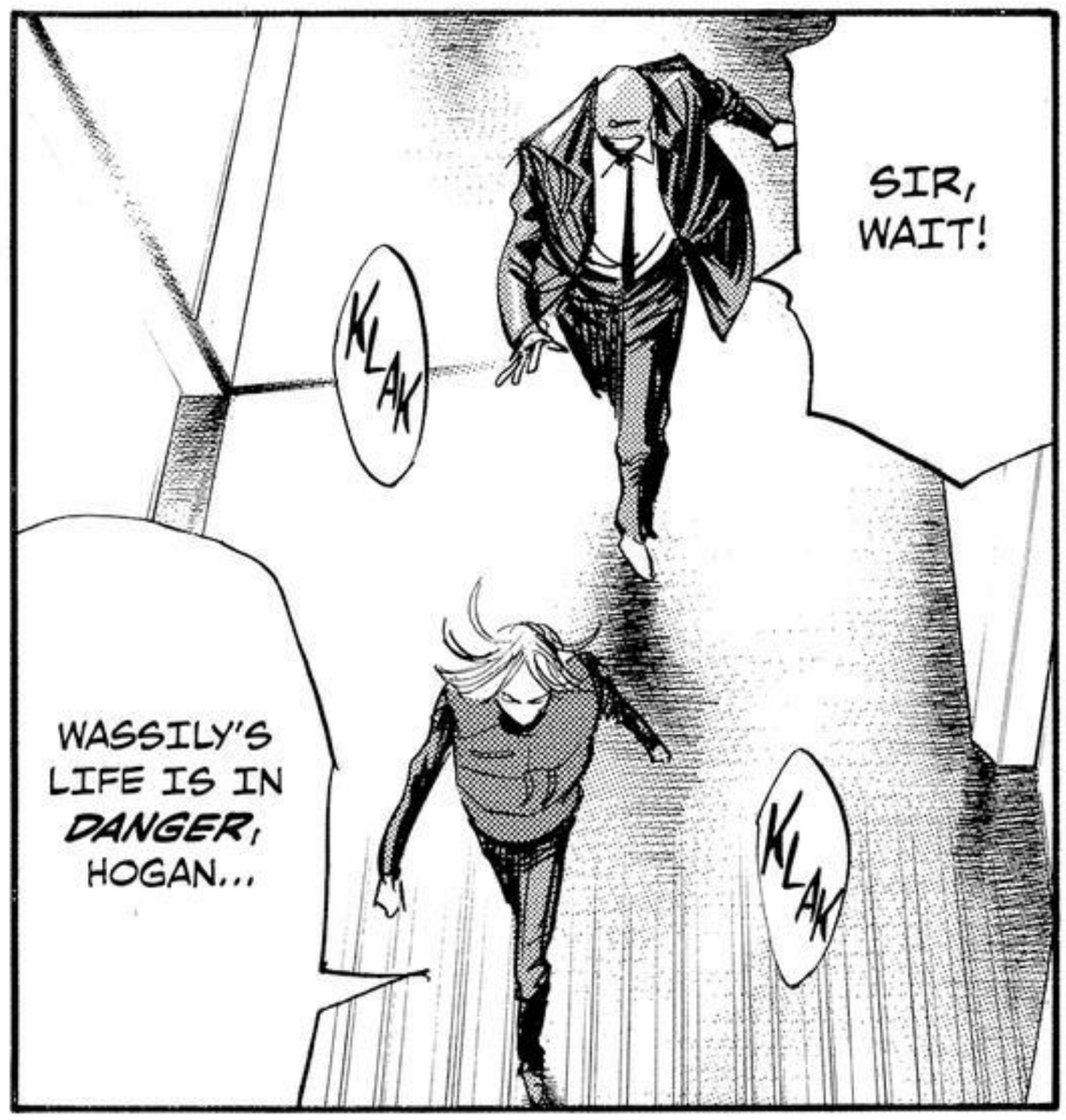




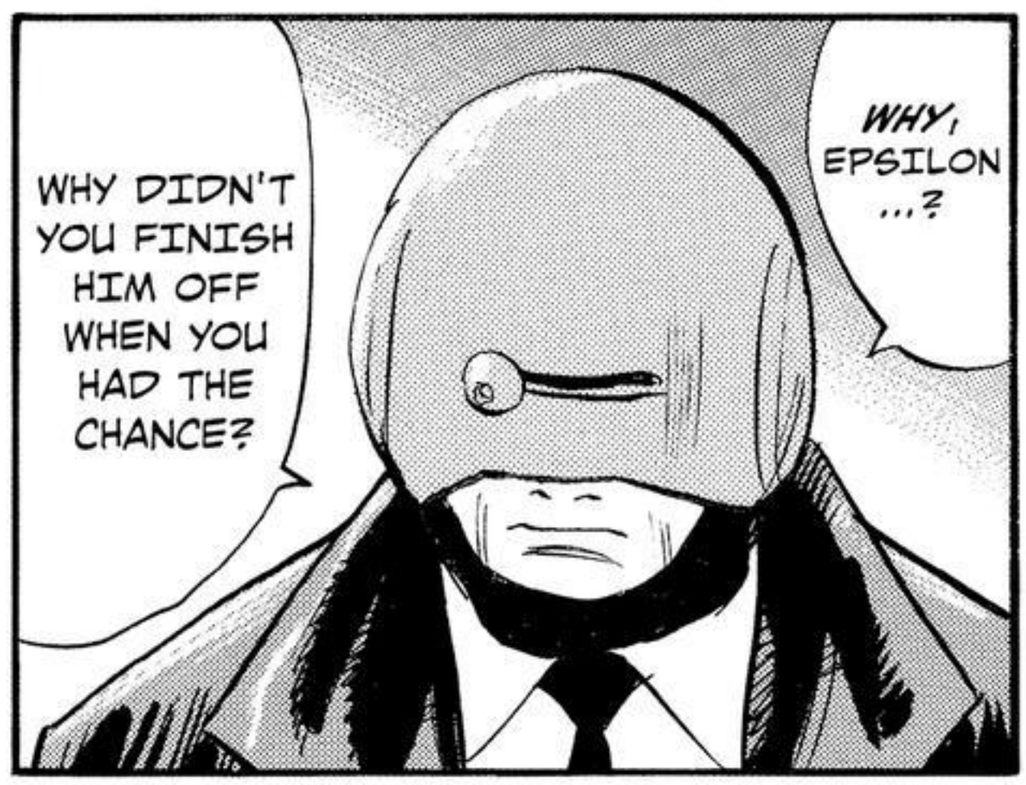
KLAK
LET'S GO.

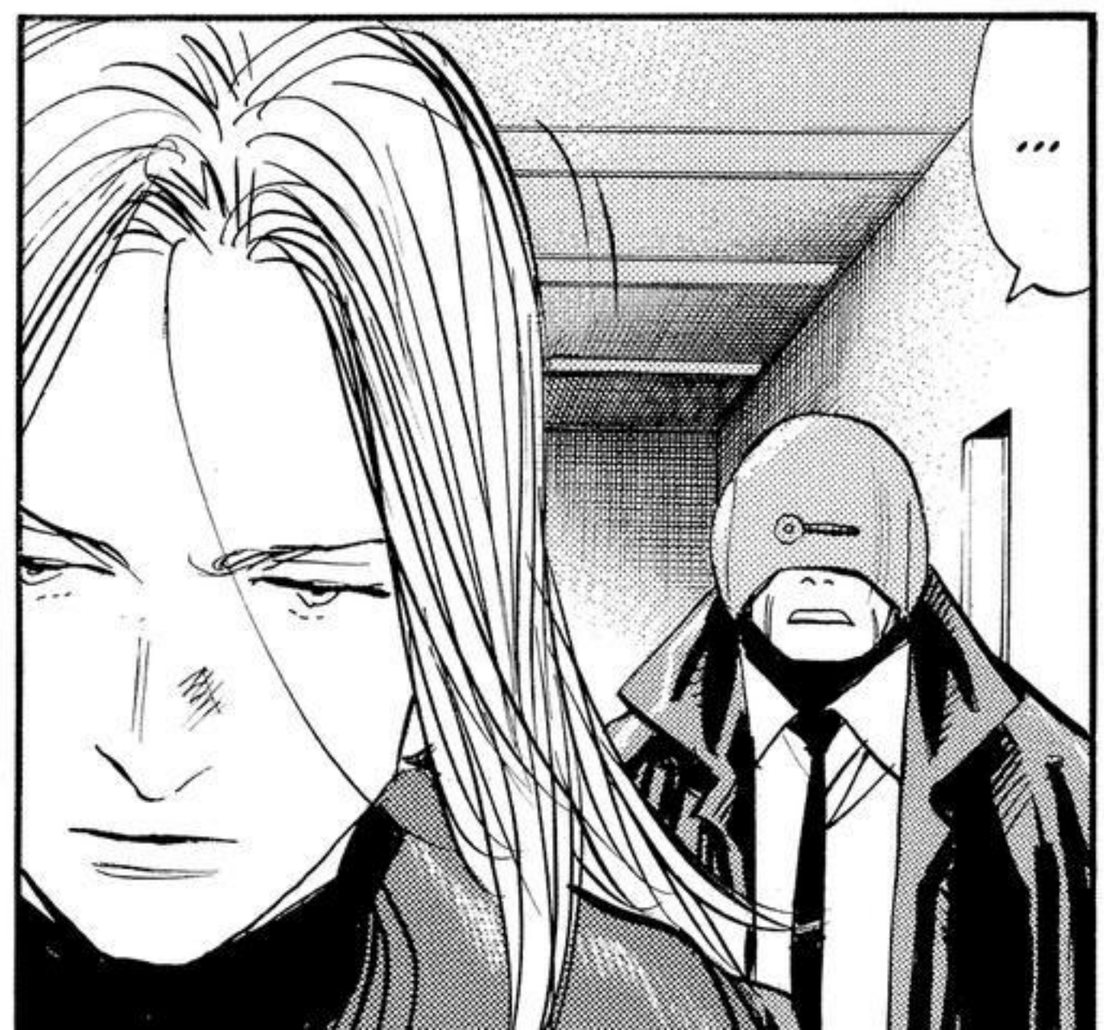
WASSILY WAS TAKEN TO VIGELAND CASTLE.
AND JOHANSEN, THE MAN WHO TOOK HIM, DOESN'T EXIST.


BUT THE MILITARY WILL BE READY TO GO INTO ACTION ANY MOMENT NOW.


SIR, WAIT!
KLAK
WASSILY'S LIFE IS IN *DANGER*, HOGAN...
KLAK

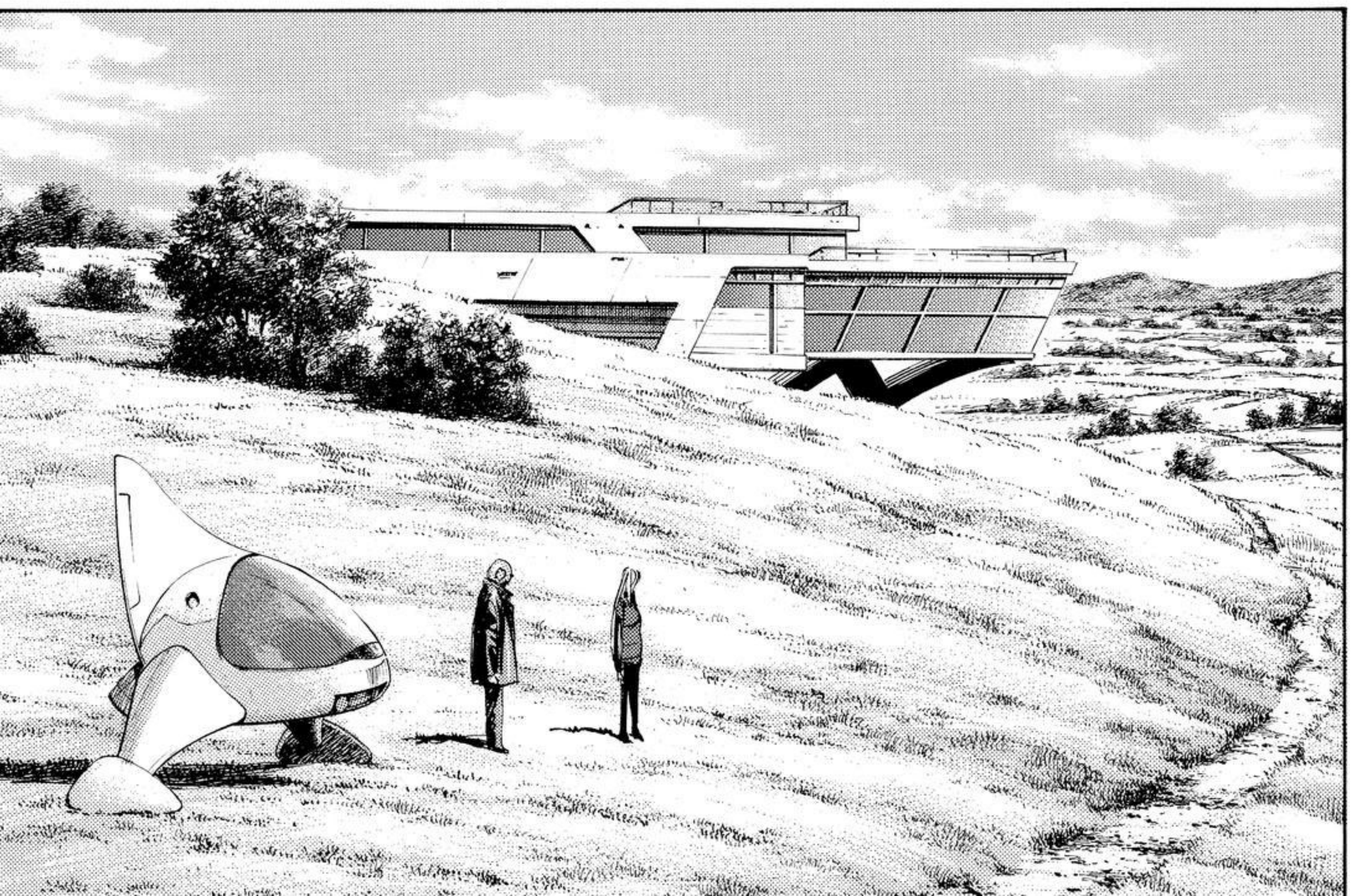
BUT IT'S *ME* THEY'RE AFTER.

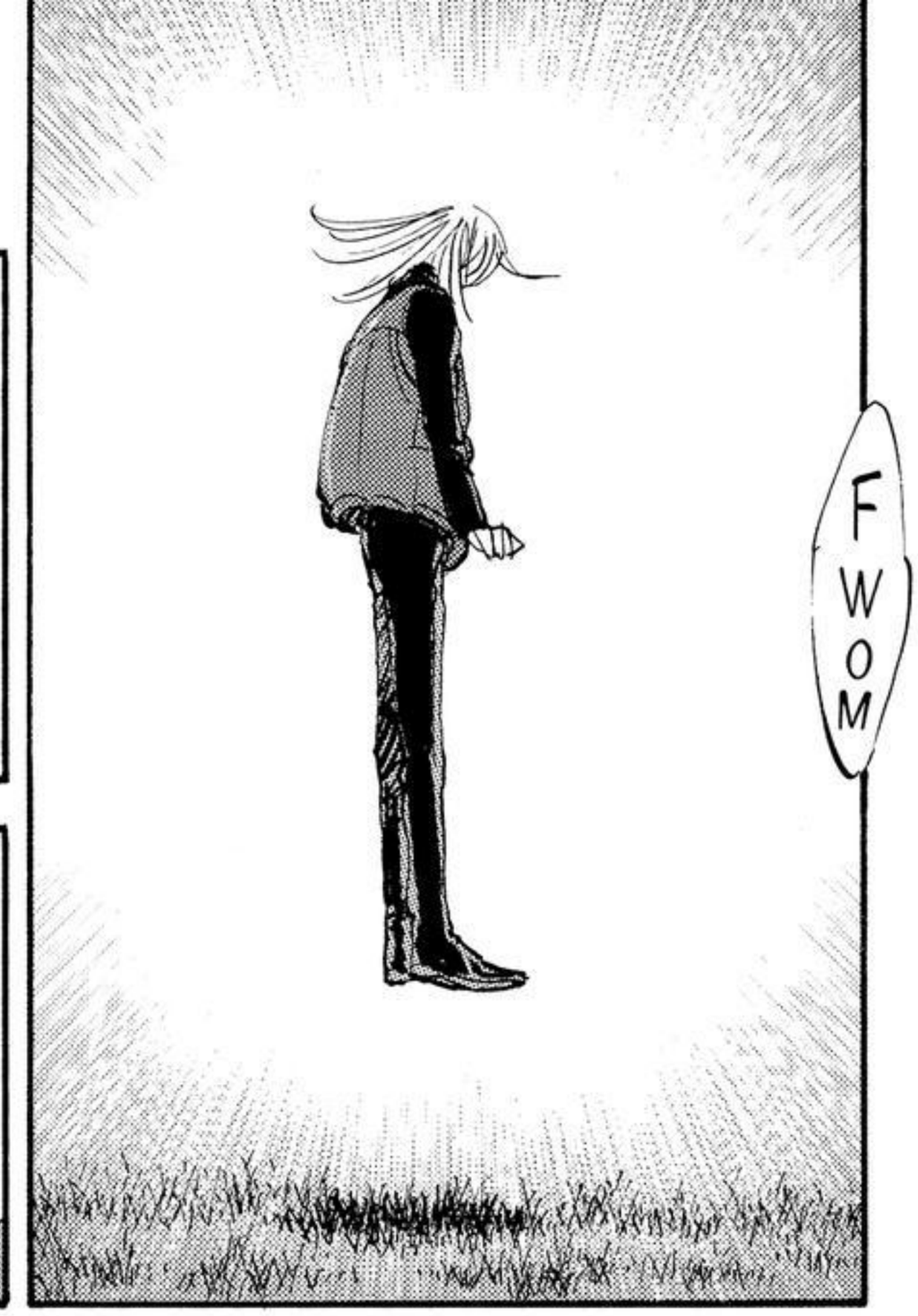

WHY DIDN'T YOU FINISH HIM OFF WHEN YOU HAD THE CHANCE?
WHY, EPSILON ...?

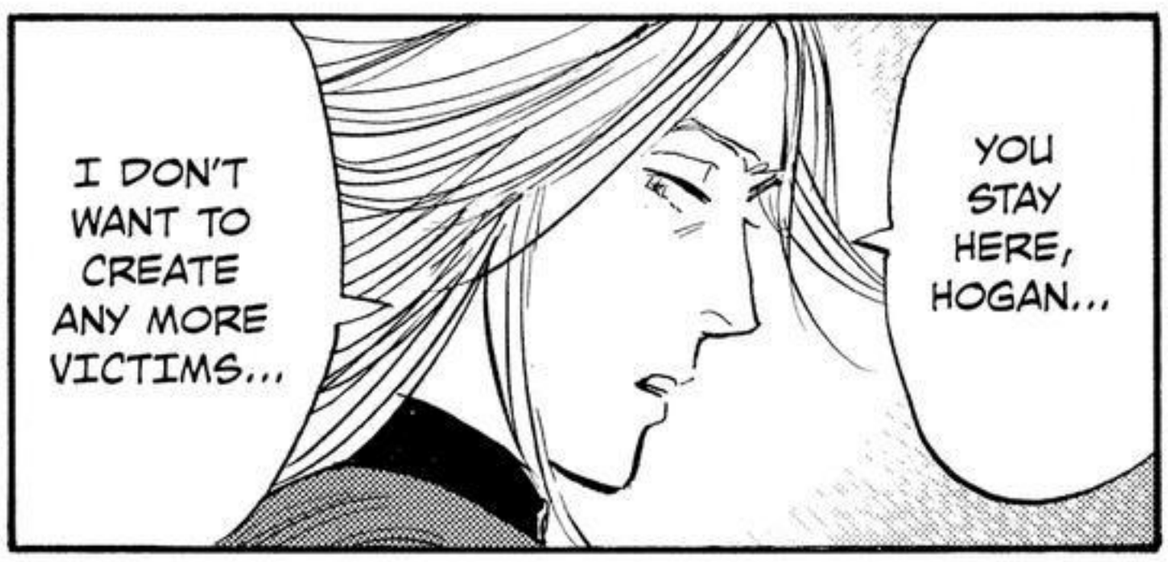

...

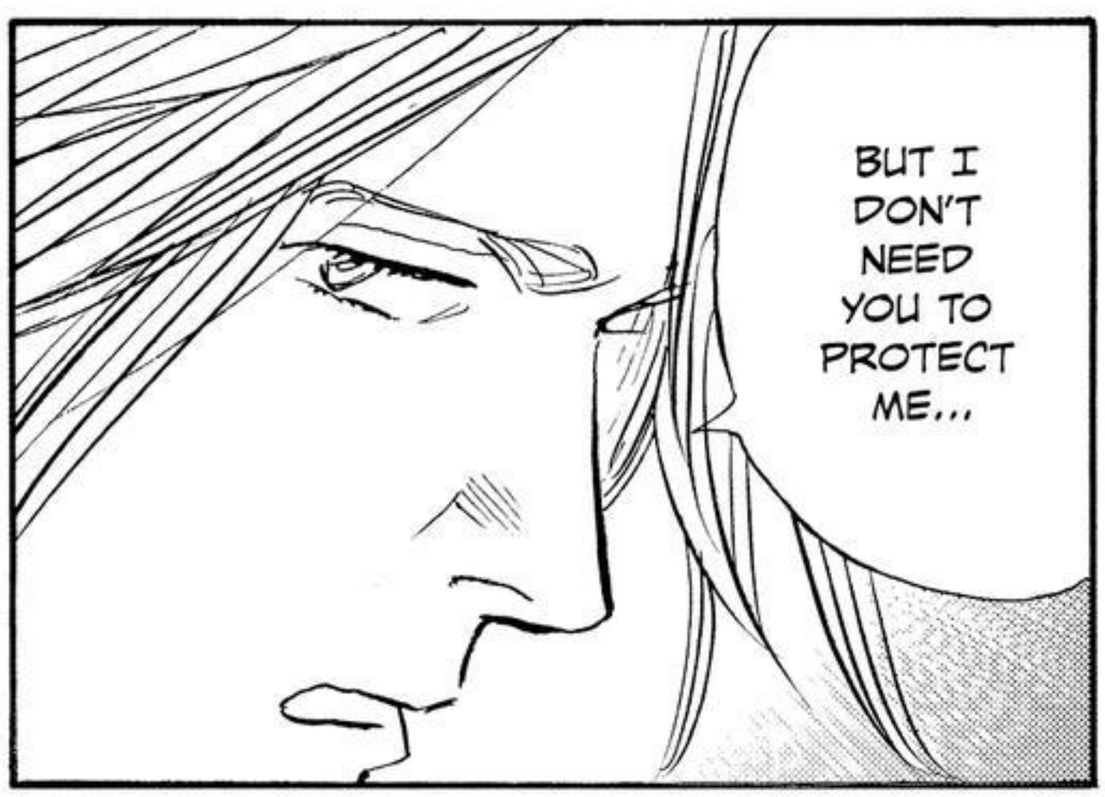
WHY DID YOU HOLD BACK...?
YOU HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO FINISH HIM OFF.

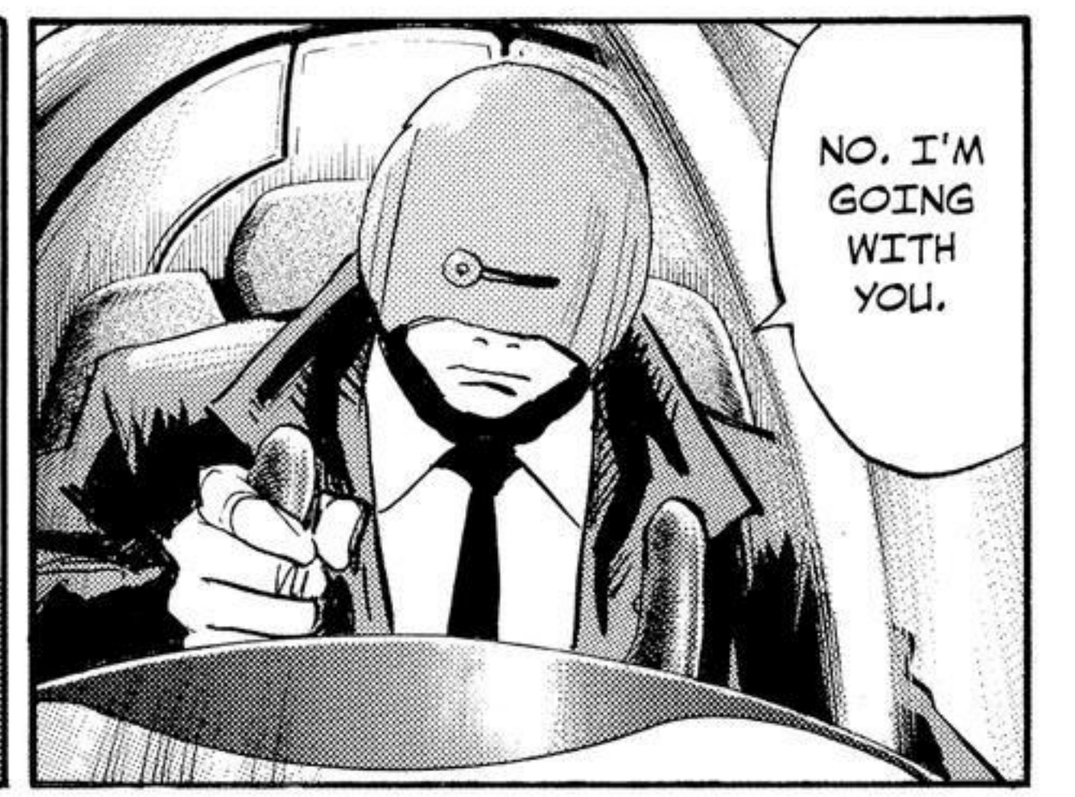
KLAK
KLAK

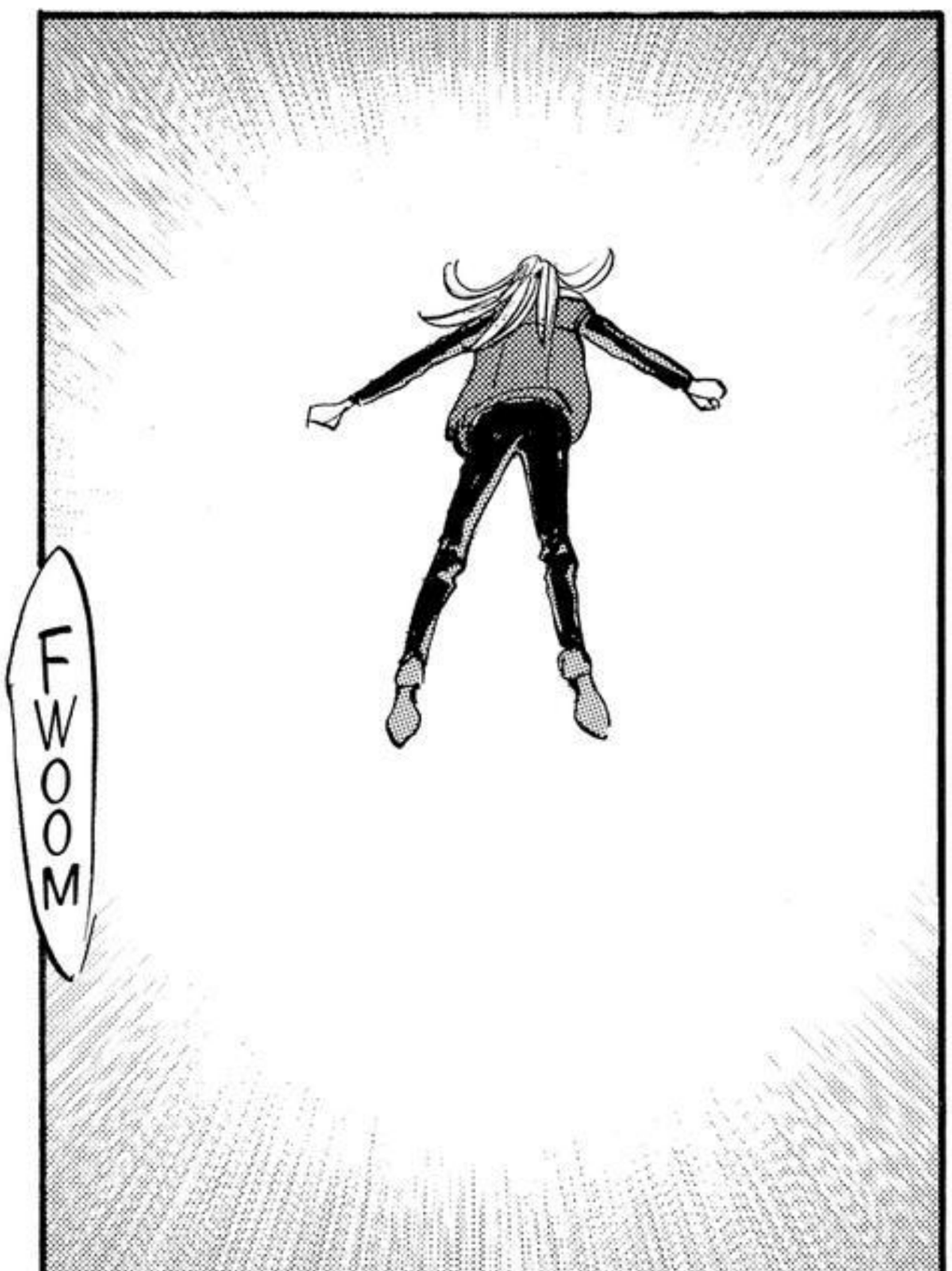


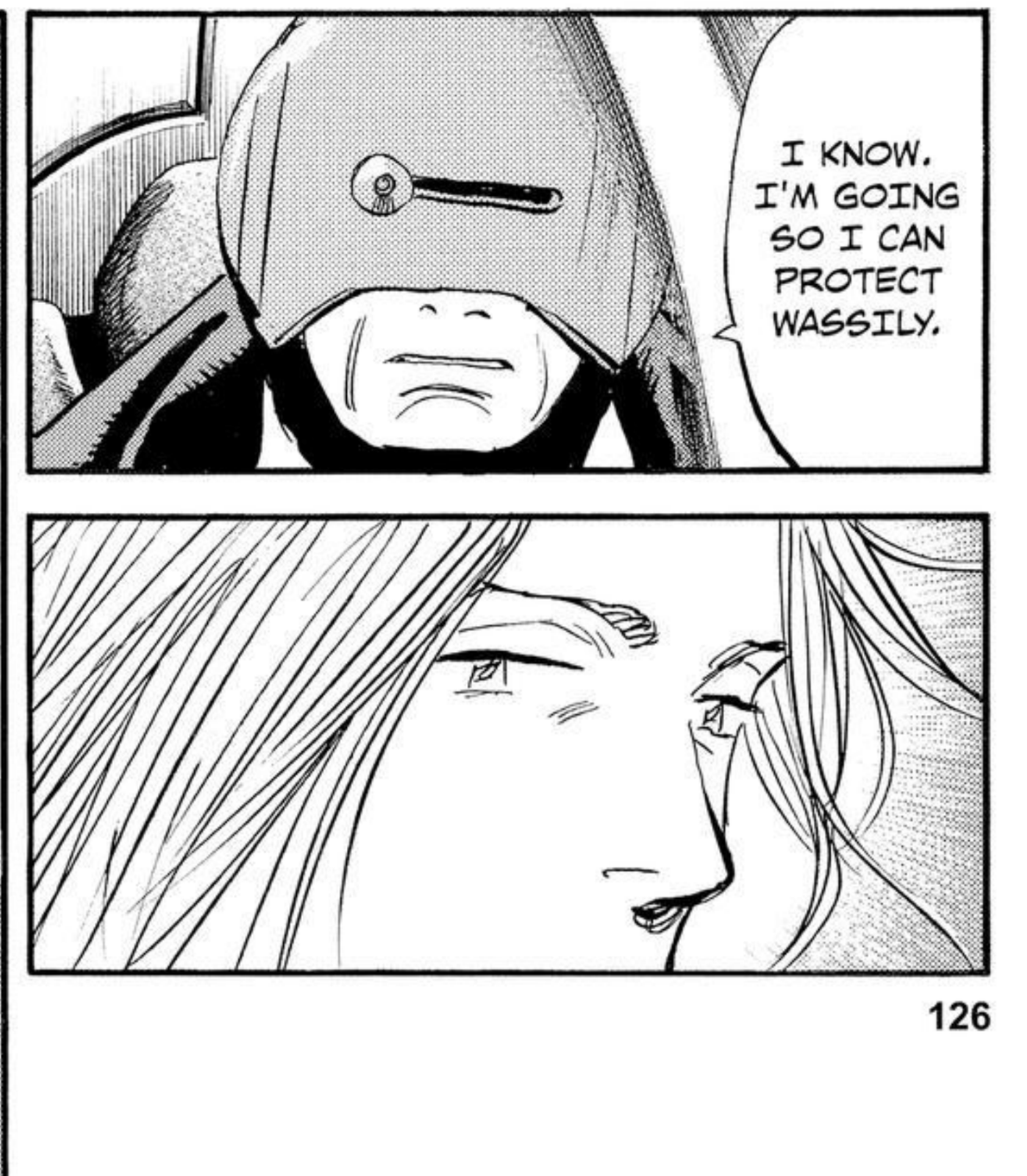

FWOOM

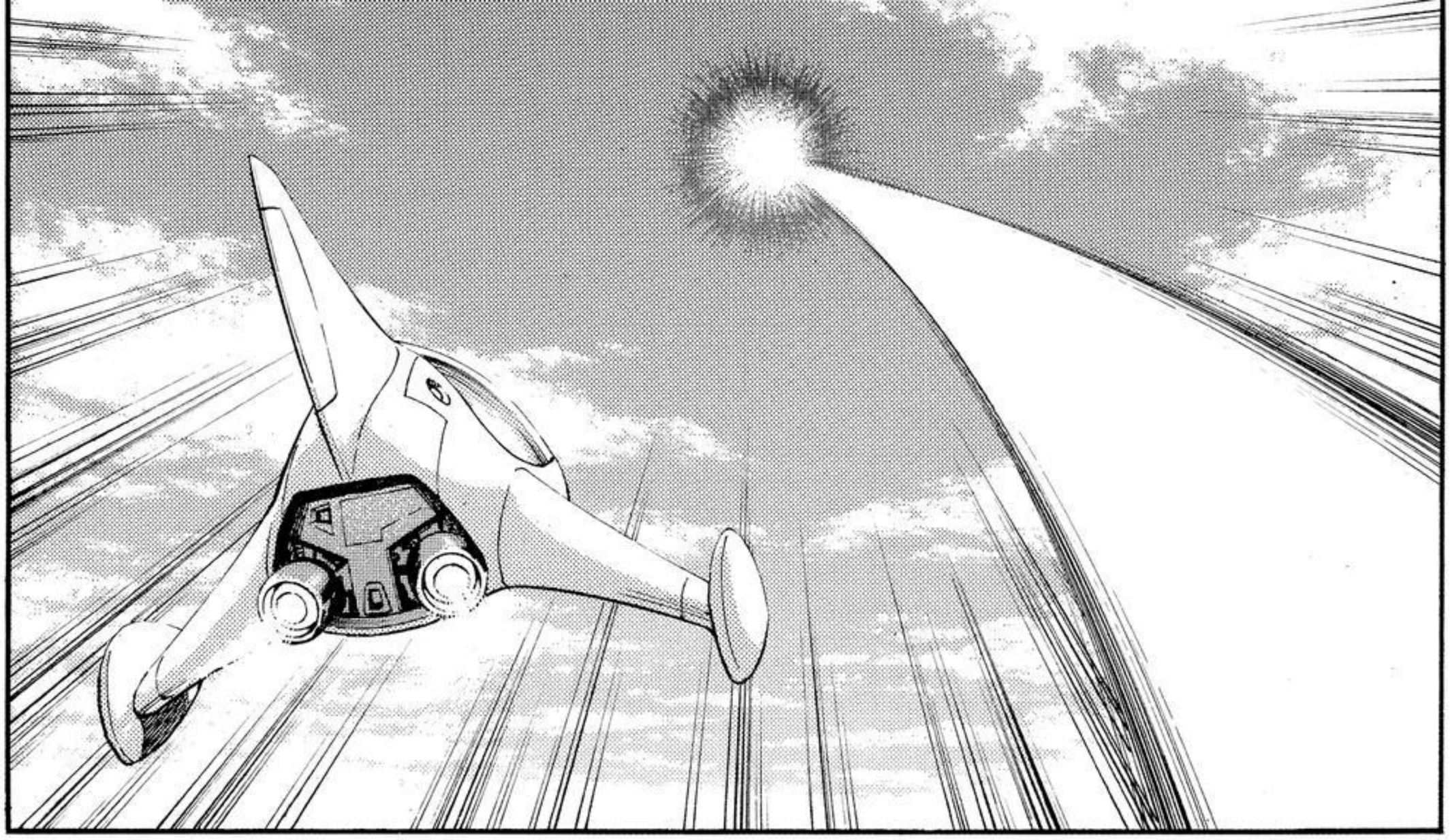

I DON'T WANT TO CREATE ANY MORE VICTIMS...
YOU STAY HERE, HOGAN...

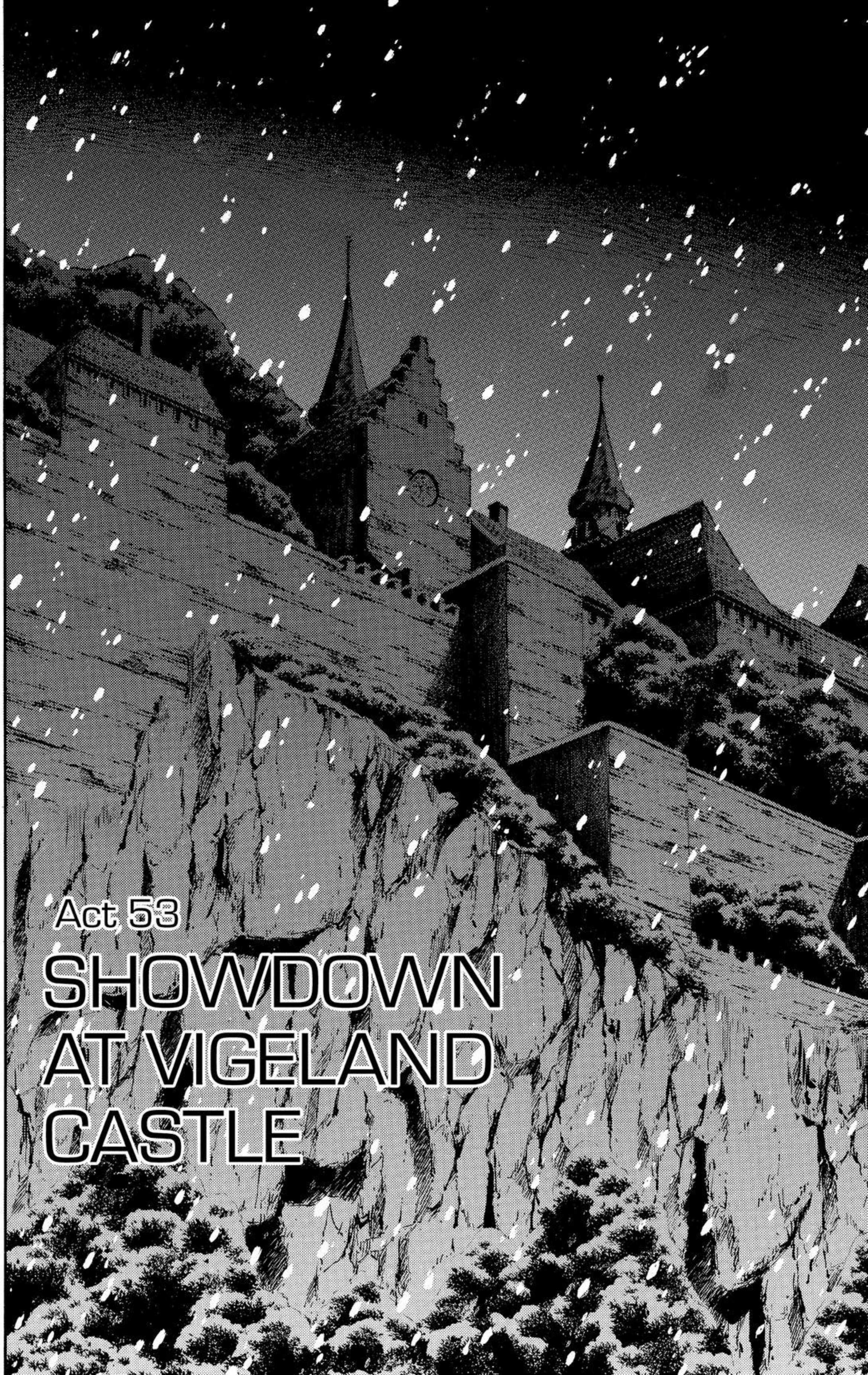

BUT I DON'T NEED YOU TO PROTECT ME...


NO. I'M GOING WITH YOU.


FWOOM


I KNOW. I'M GOING SO I CAN PROTECT WASSILY.

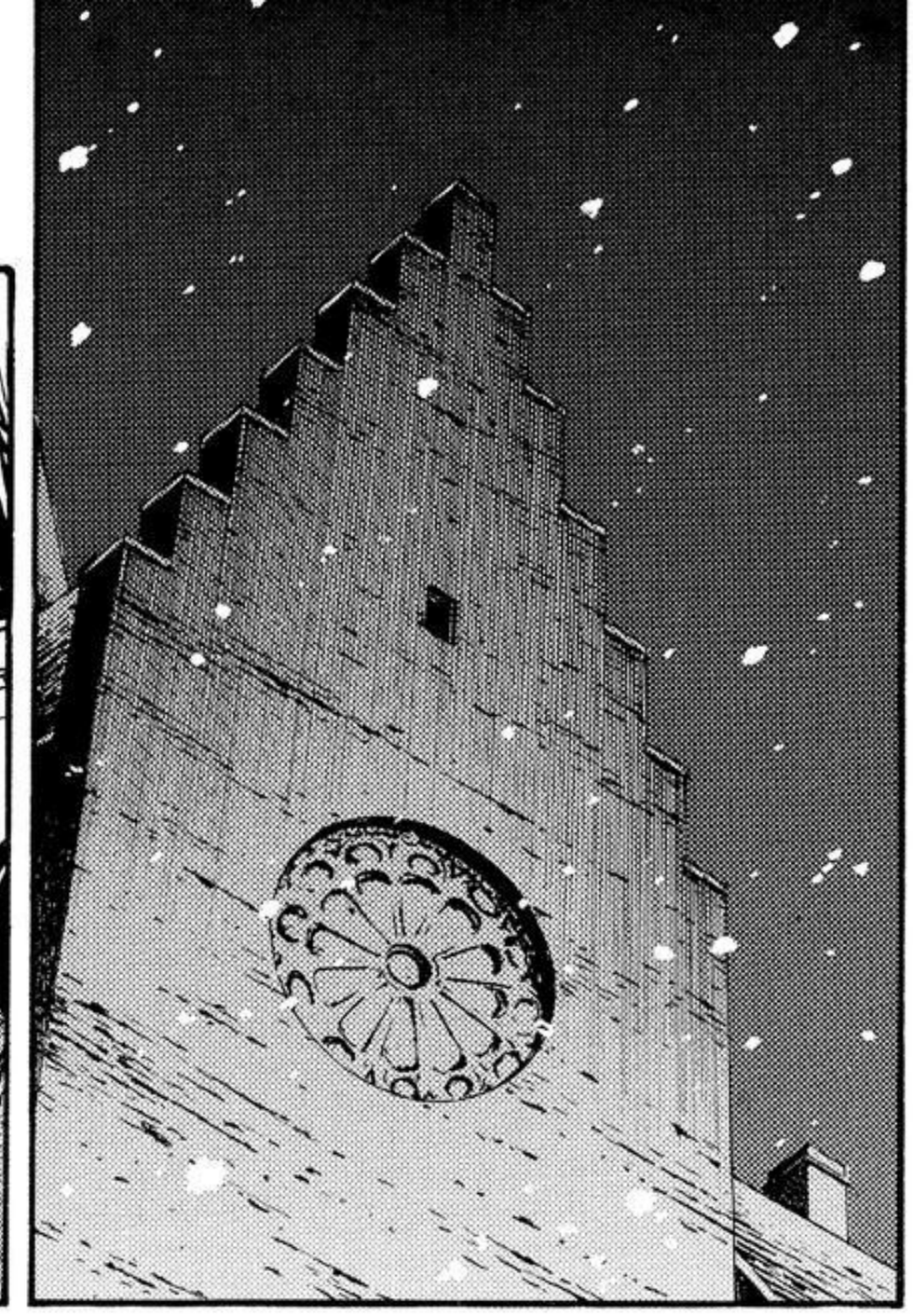




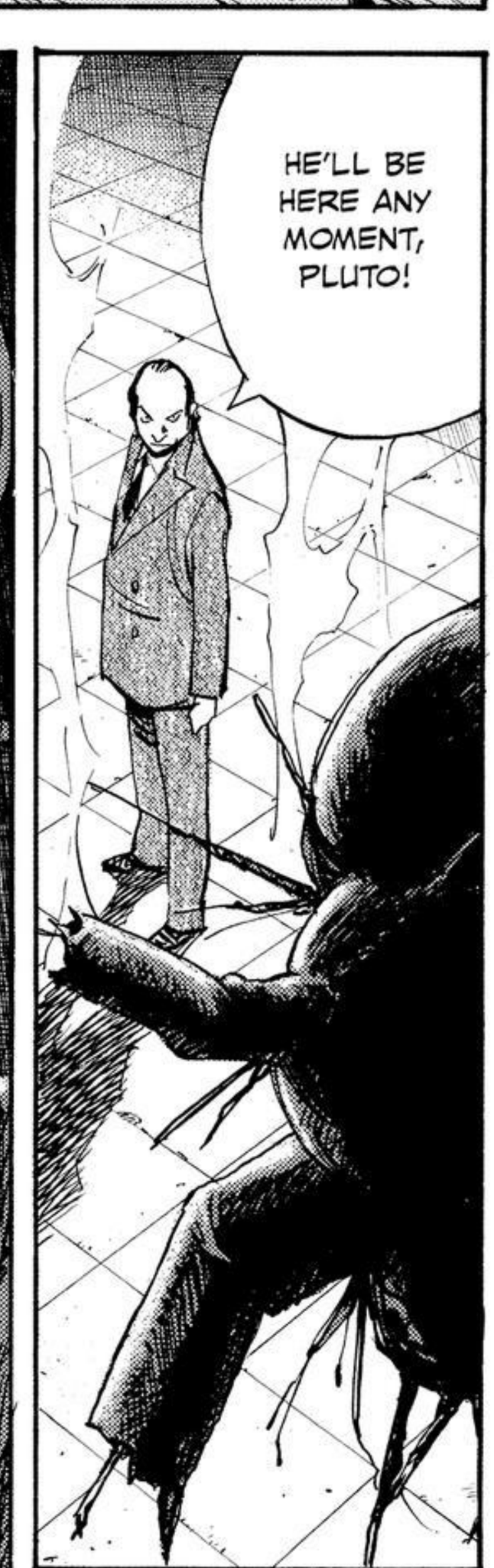
Act 53

SHOWDOWN AT VIGELAND CASTLE

!!



GROA...


HE'LL BE HERE ANY MOMENT, PLUTO!

GRAAH!!

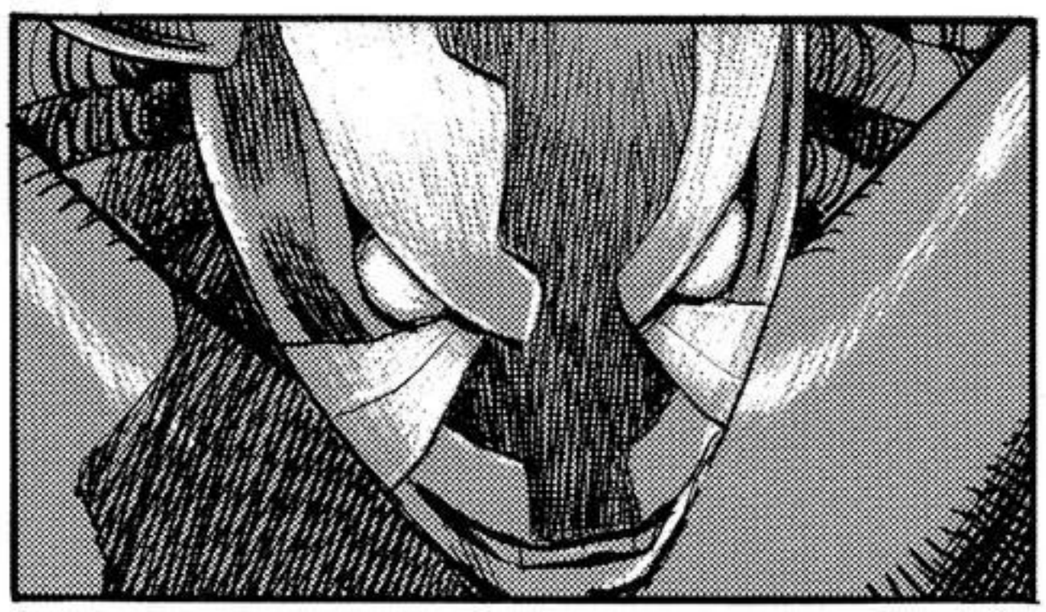
BORA!!

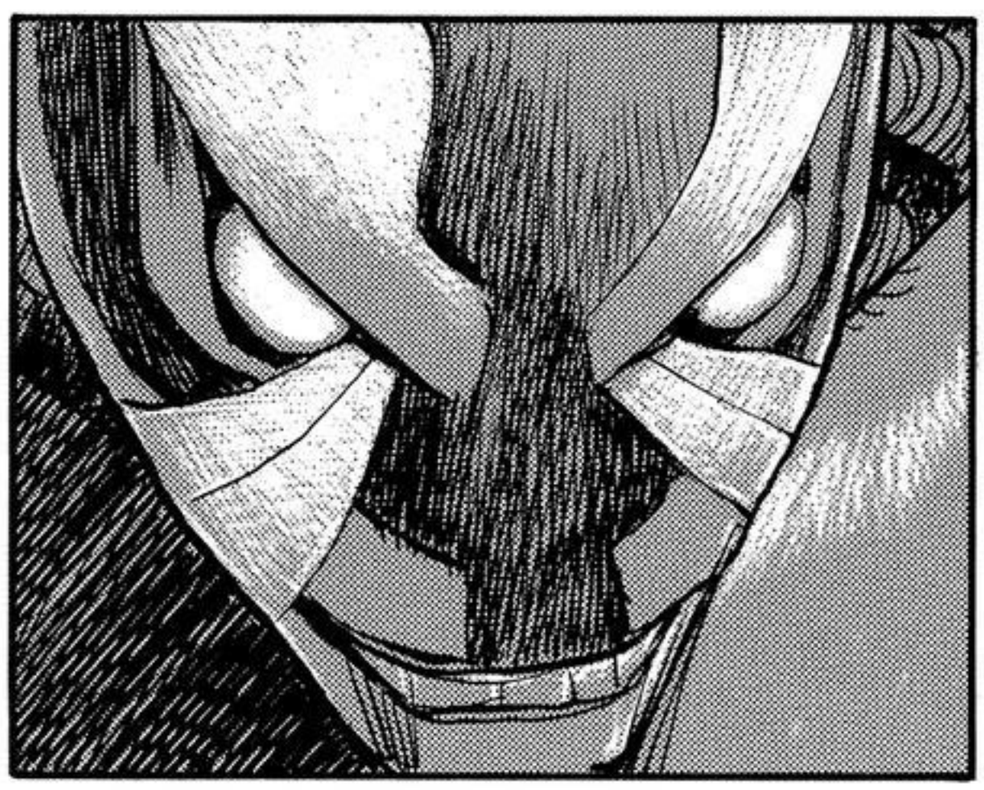
BORA!

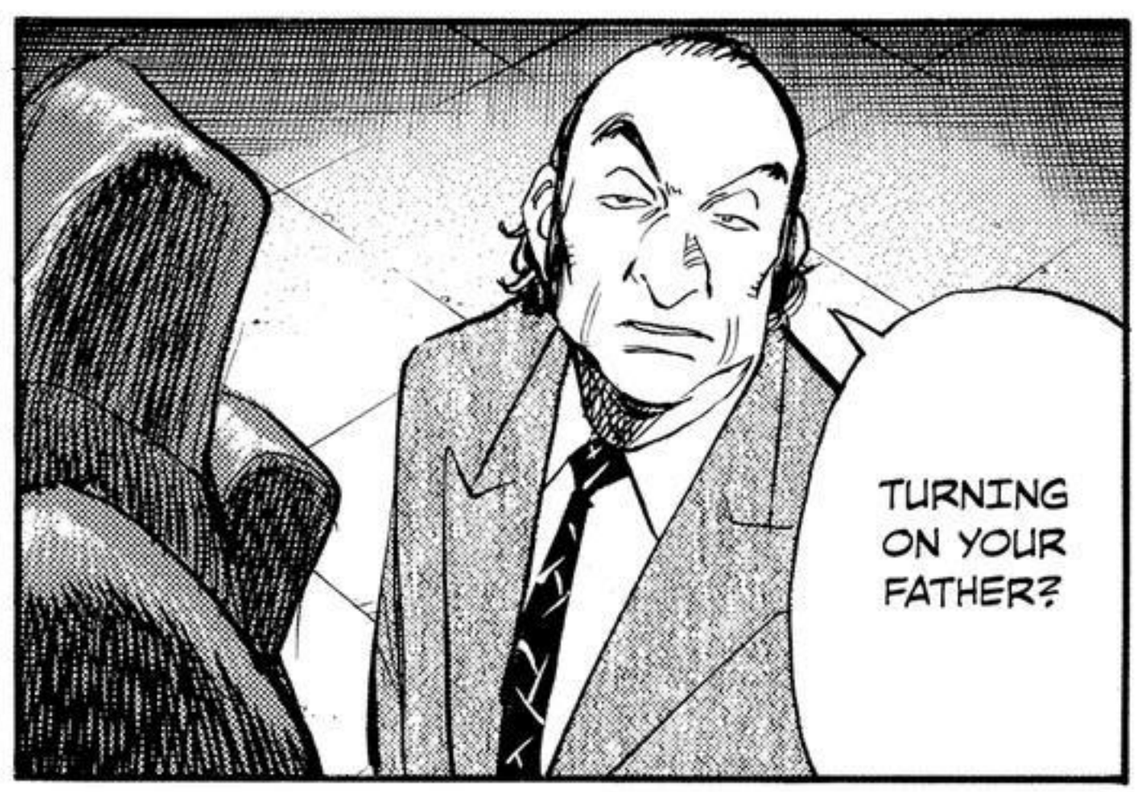
BORAAA!

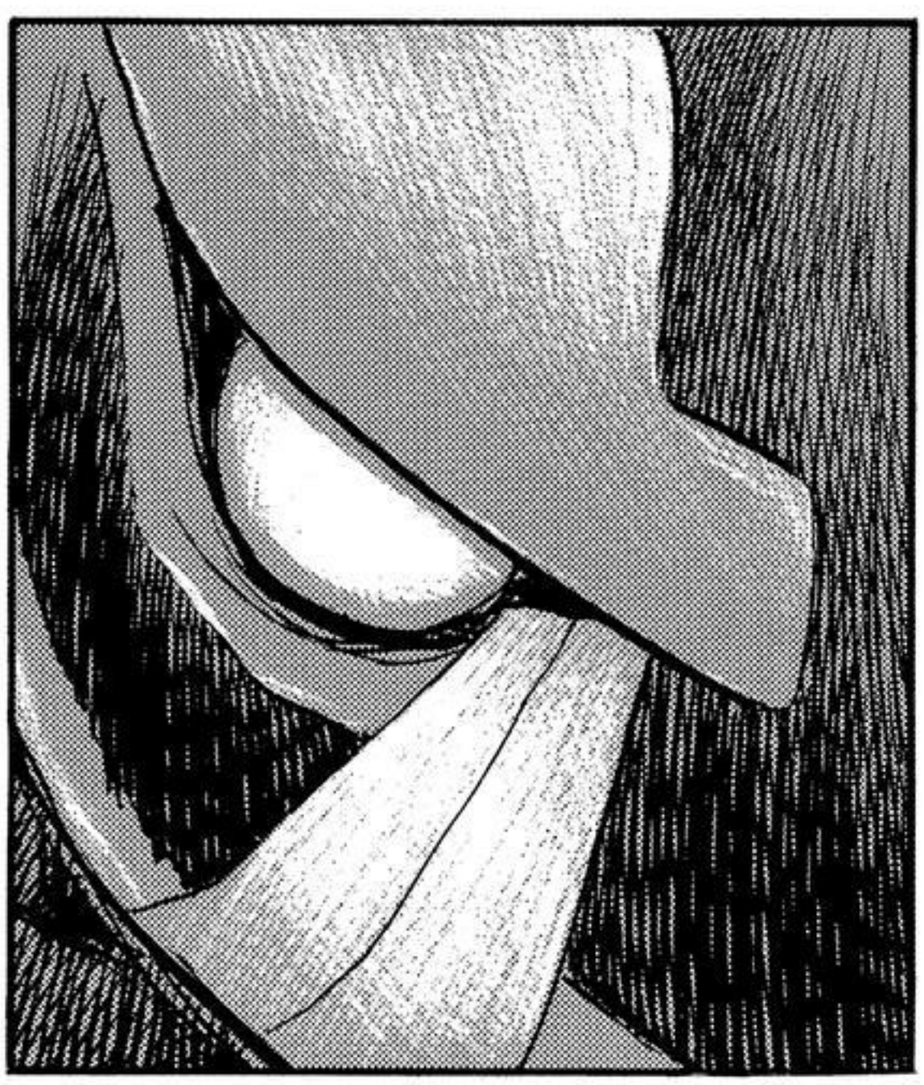
KLACK
THAT'S ENOUGH OUT OF YOU!
BORA! BORAA!!
KTUNK

JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

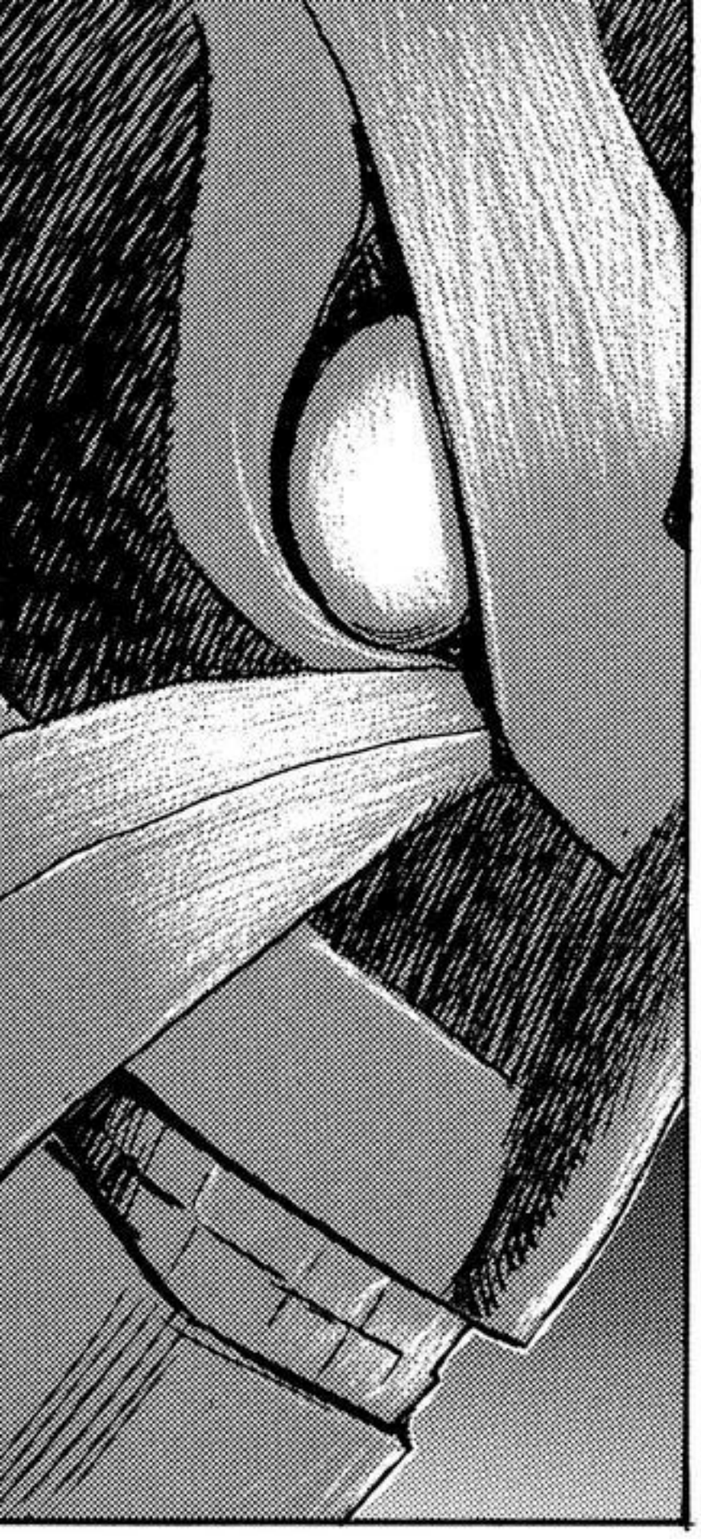





TURNING ON YOUR FATHER?

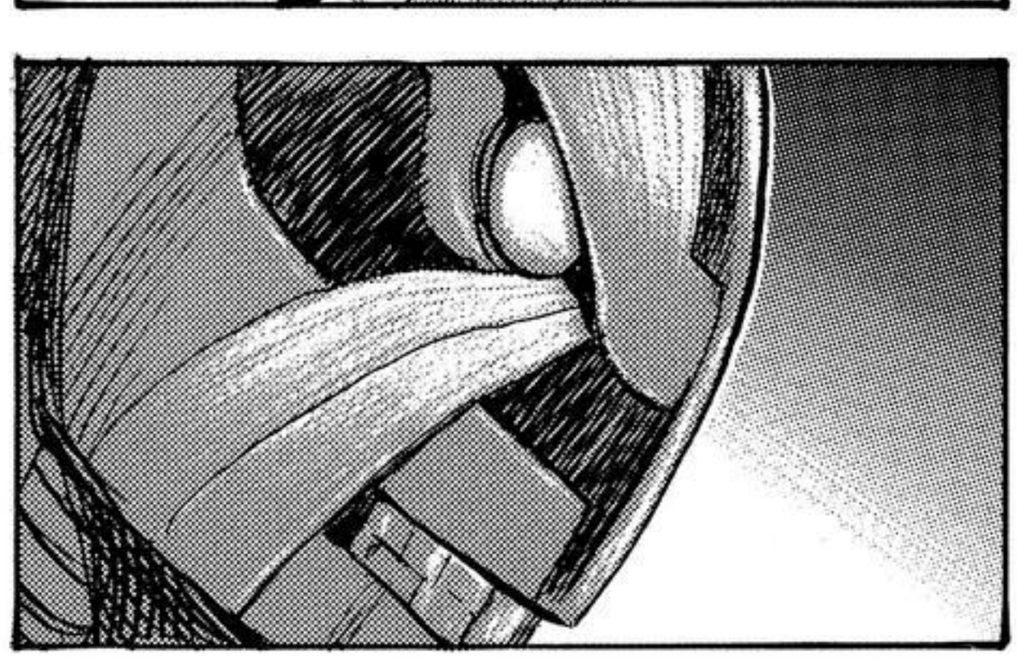


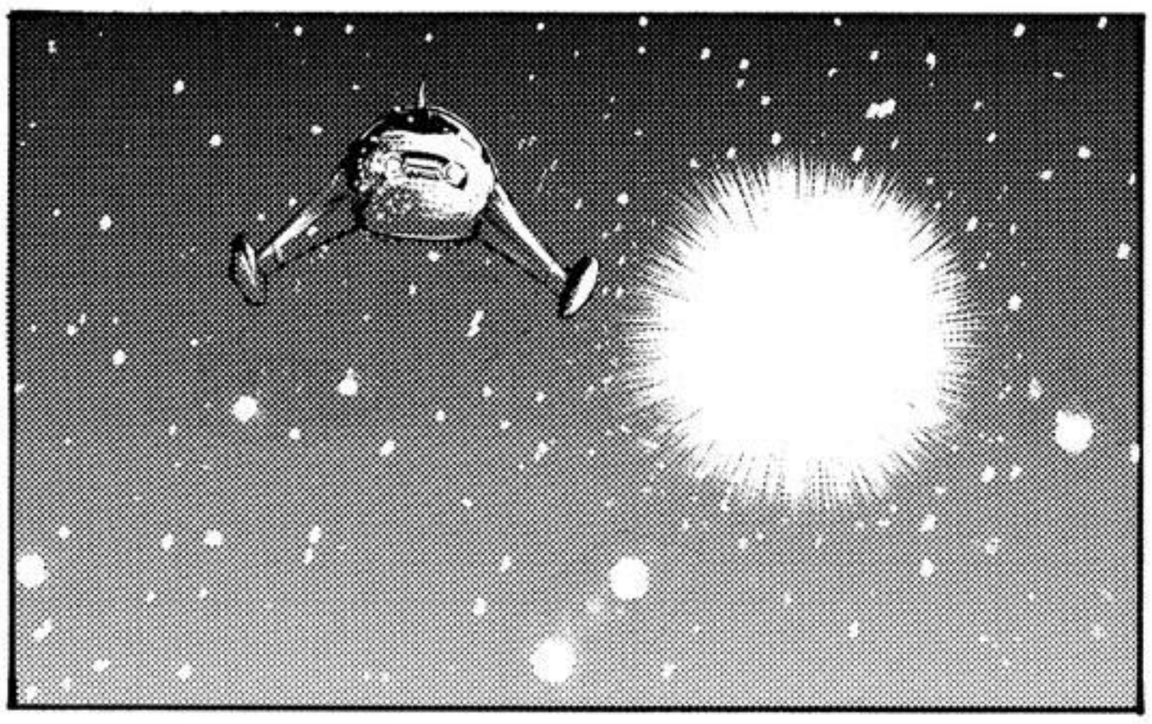
SINCE WHEN DO YOU DARE DEFY YOUR OWN CREATOR?!



THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, ISN'T IT?

ONCE THIS FIGHT IS OVER, I'LL LET YOU GO BACK TO YOUR ORIGINAL BODY...

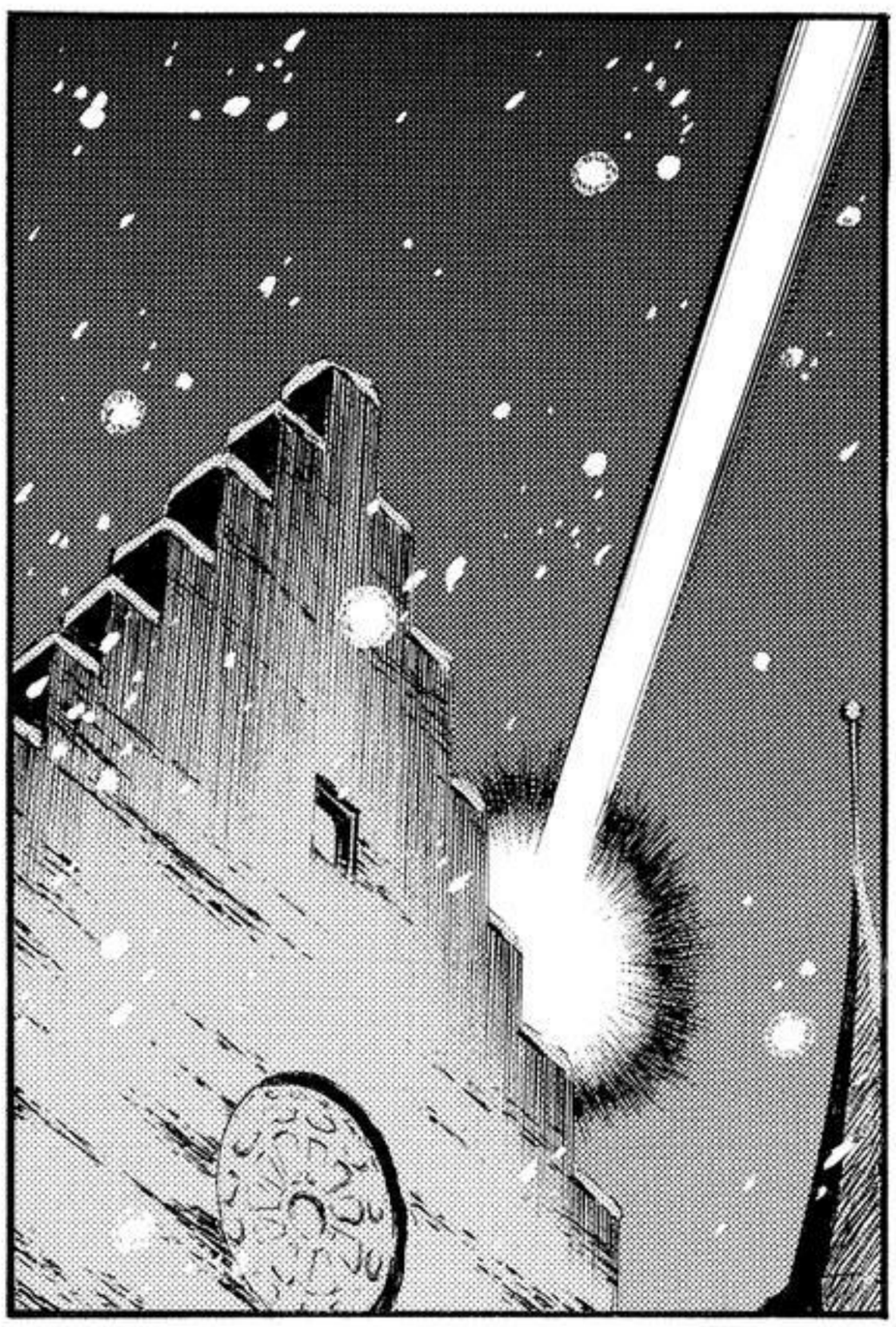




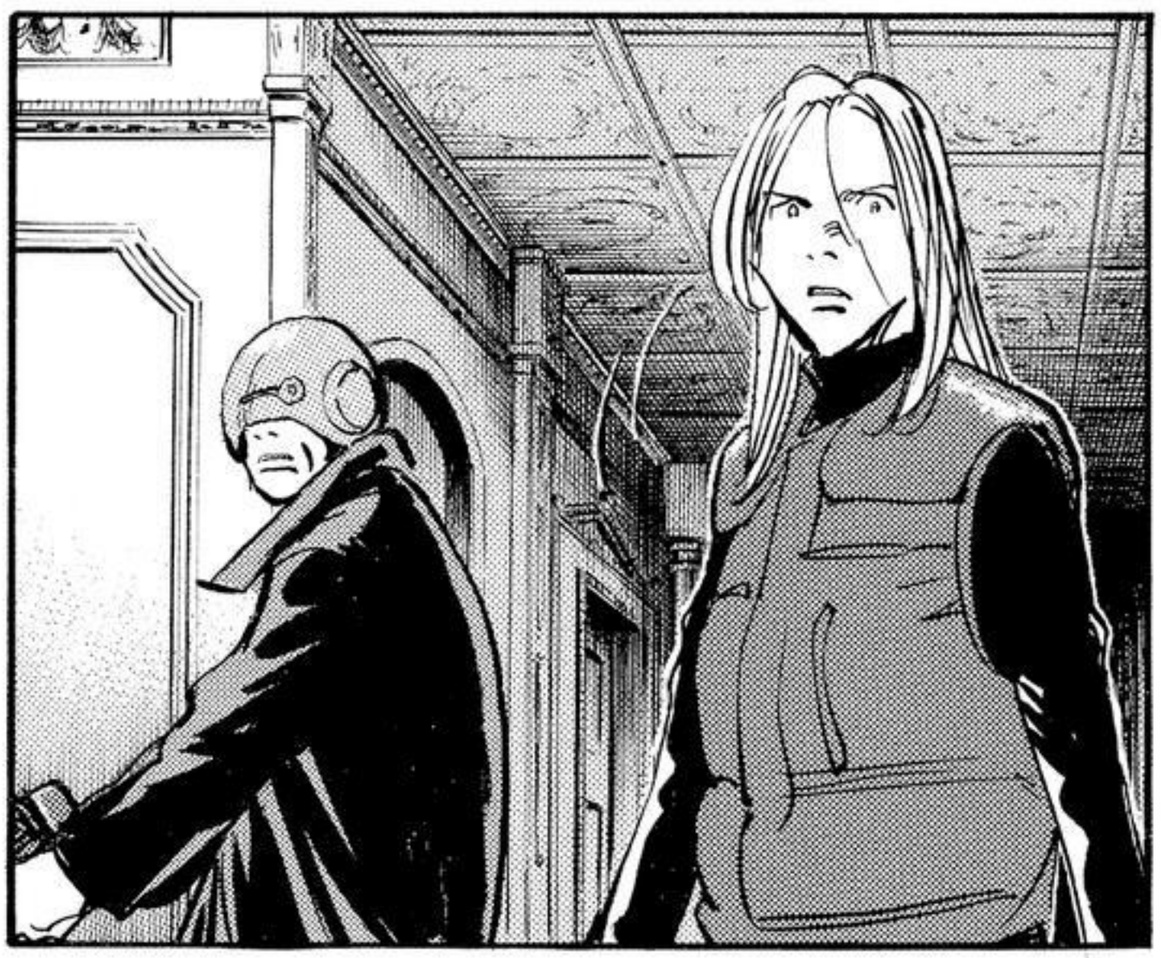
I'M GETTING A BIO READING ON WASSILY!
I'LL GO DOWN TO INVESTIGATE. YOU STAY HERE AND WAIT!

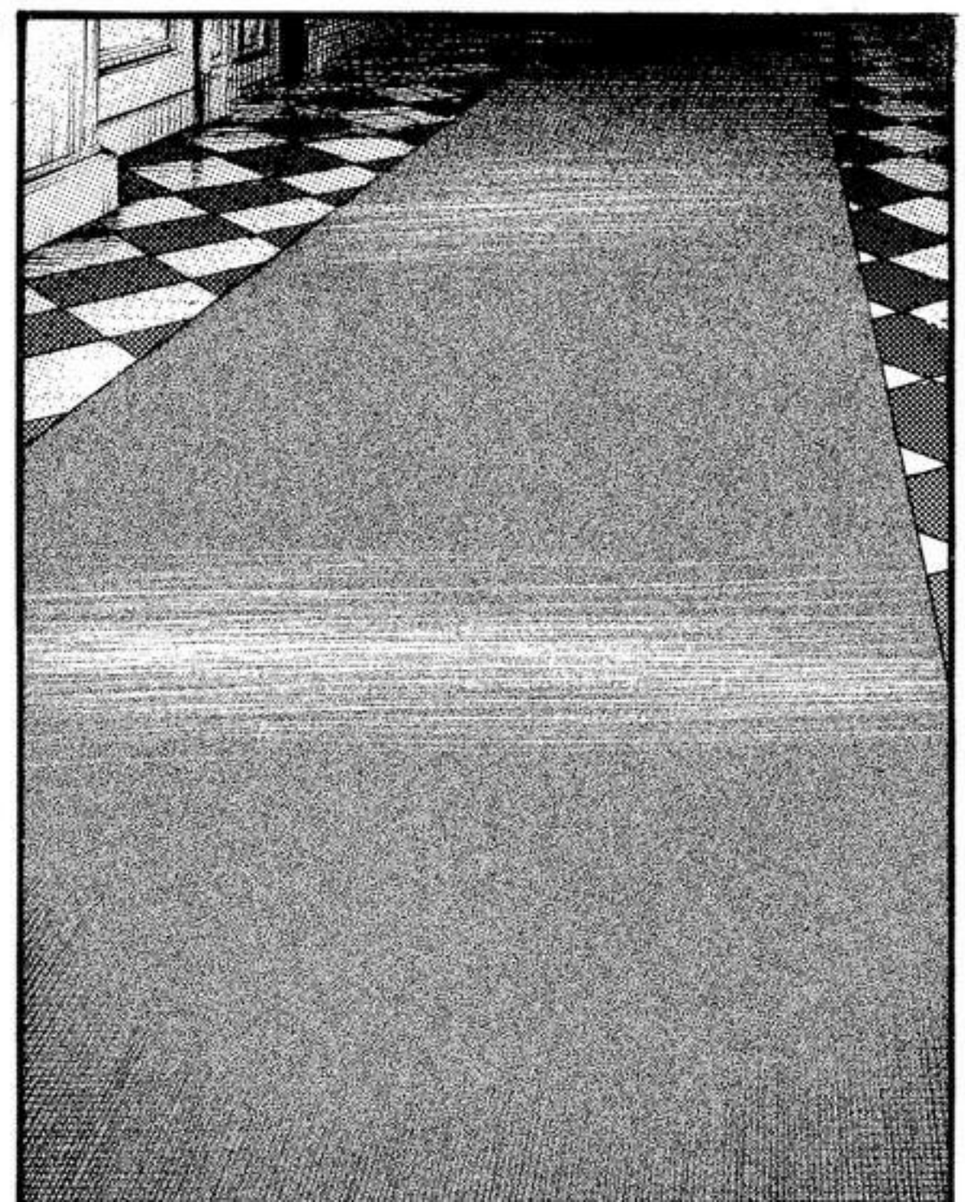
NO. WE'VE GOT TO GET WASSILY OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!

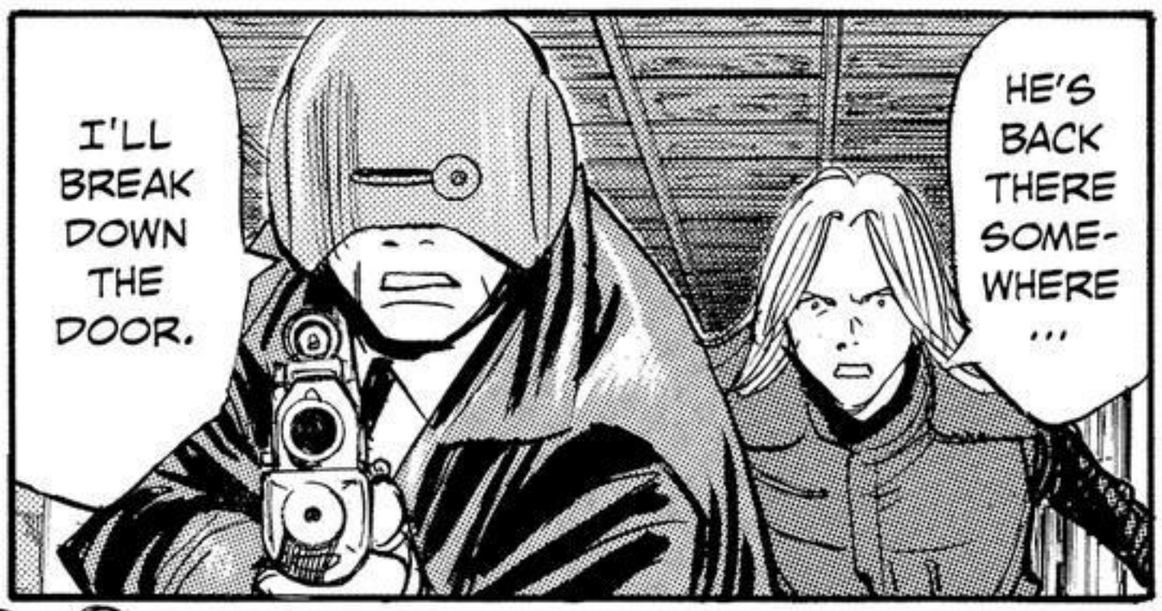
YOU SHOULD AT LEAST WAIT UNTIL THE SUN IS UP!!
BUT EPSILON, YOU'RE A PHOTON ENERGY-POWERED ROBOT...

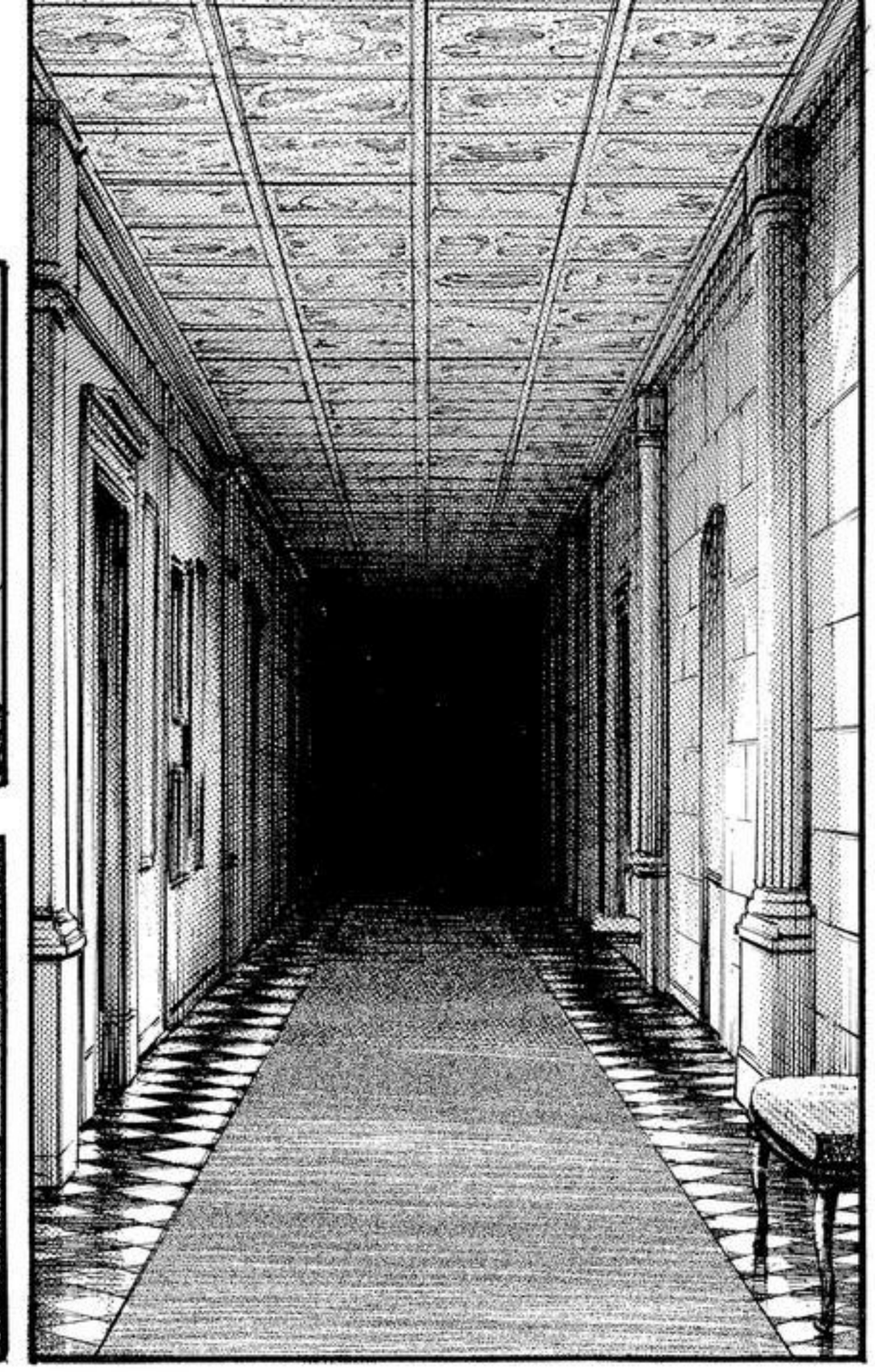


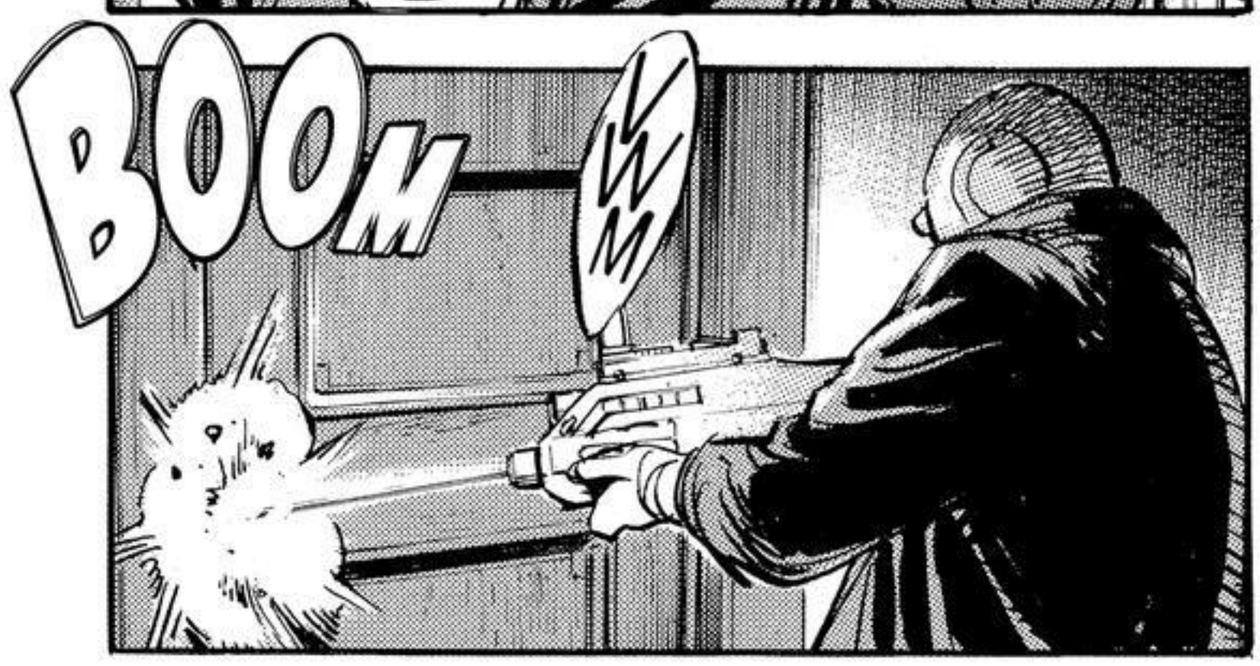
WAIT, EPSILON!! I'LL USE MY STEALTH CAPABILITY TO GET INSIDE THE CASTLE!!

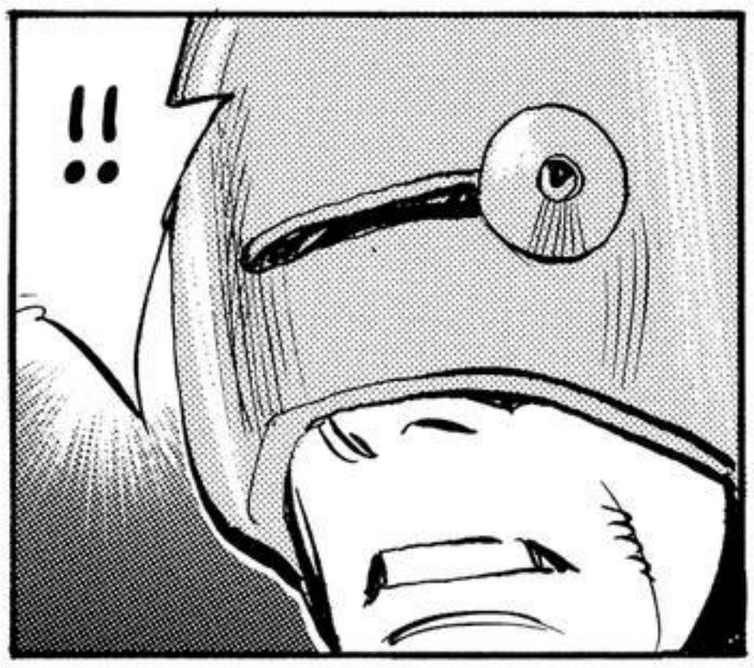


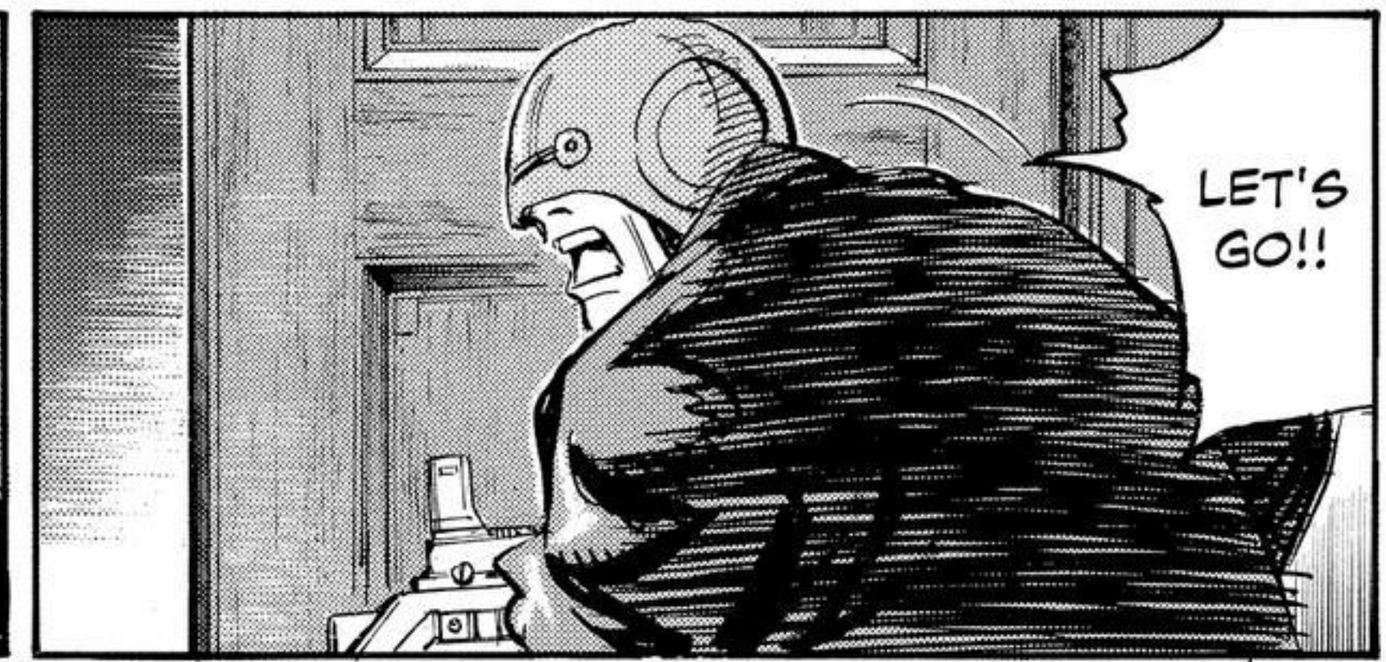


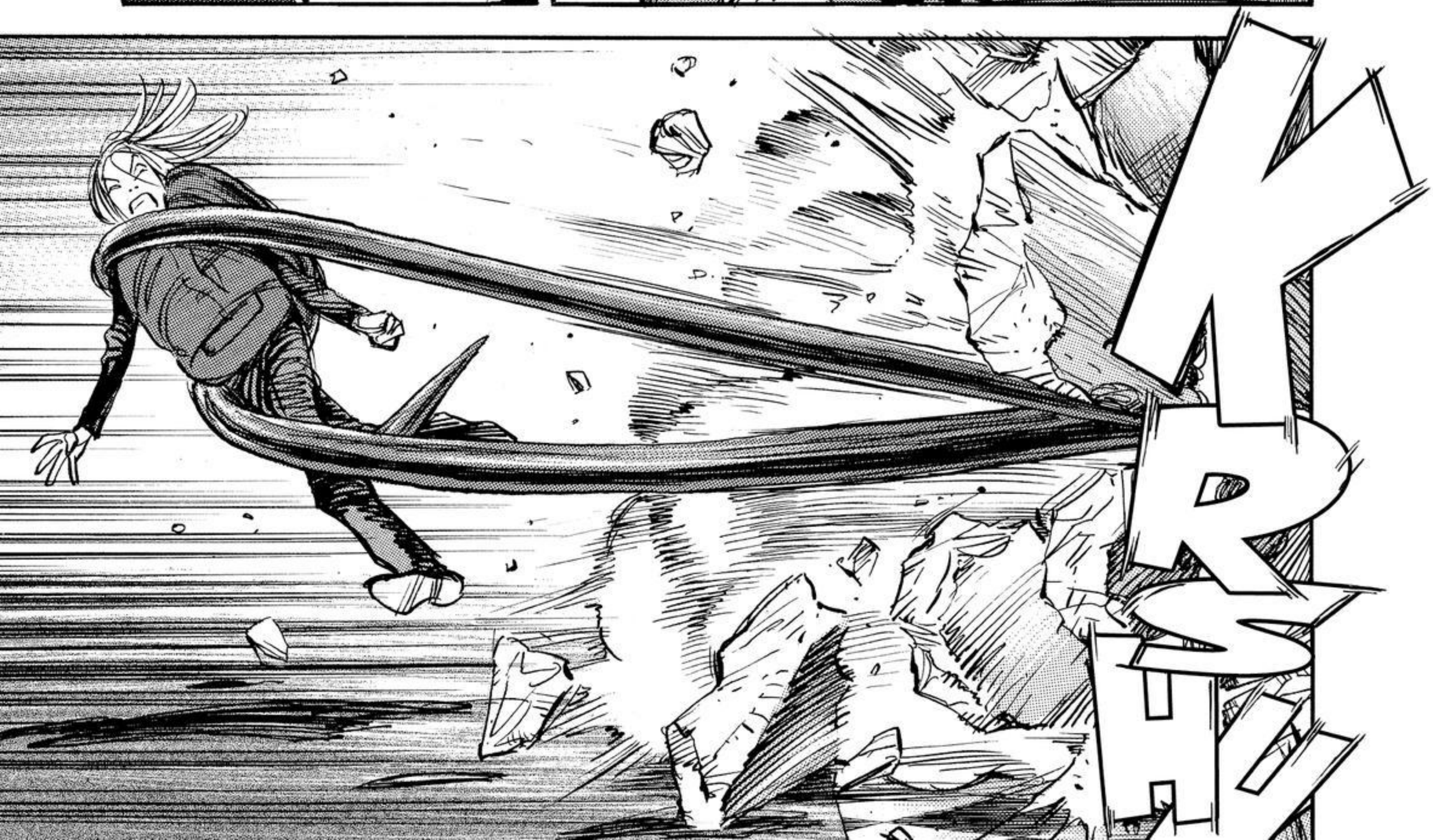

I'LL BREAK DOWN THE DOOR.
HE'S BACK THERE SOME-WHERE ...




BOOM
KKKK


!!

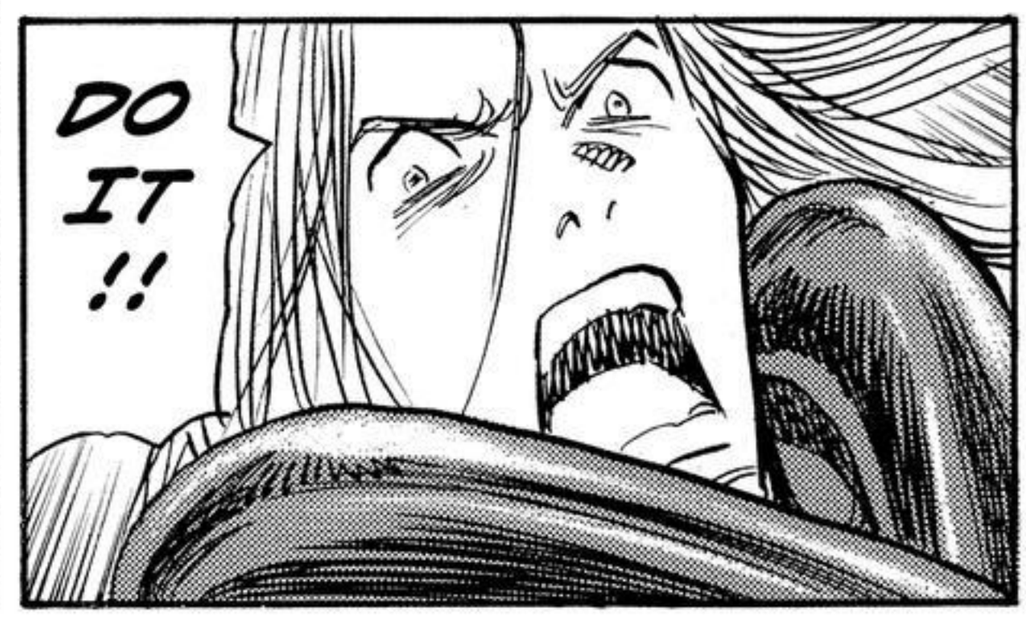

LET'S GO!!


BRRRR!!

HURRY! SAVE WASSILY !!

EPSILON!!

BUT...


DO IT !!

NNGH...

WASSILY!!

KOOM

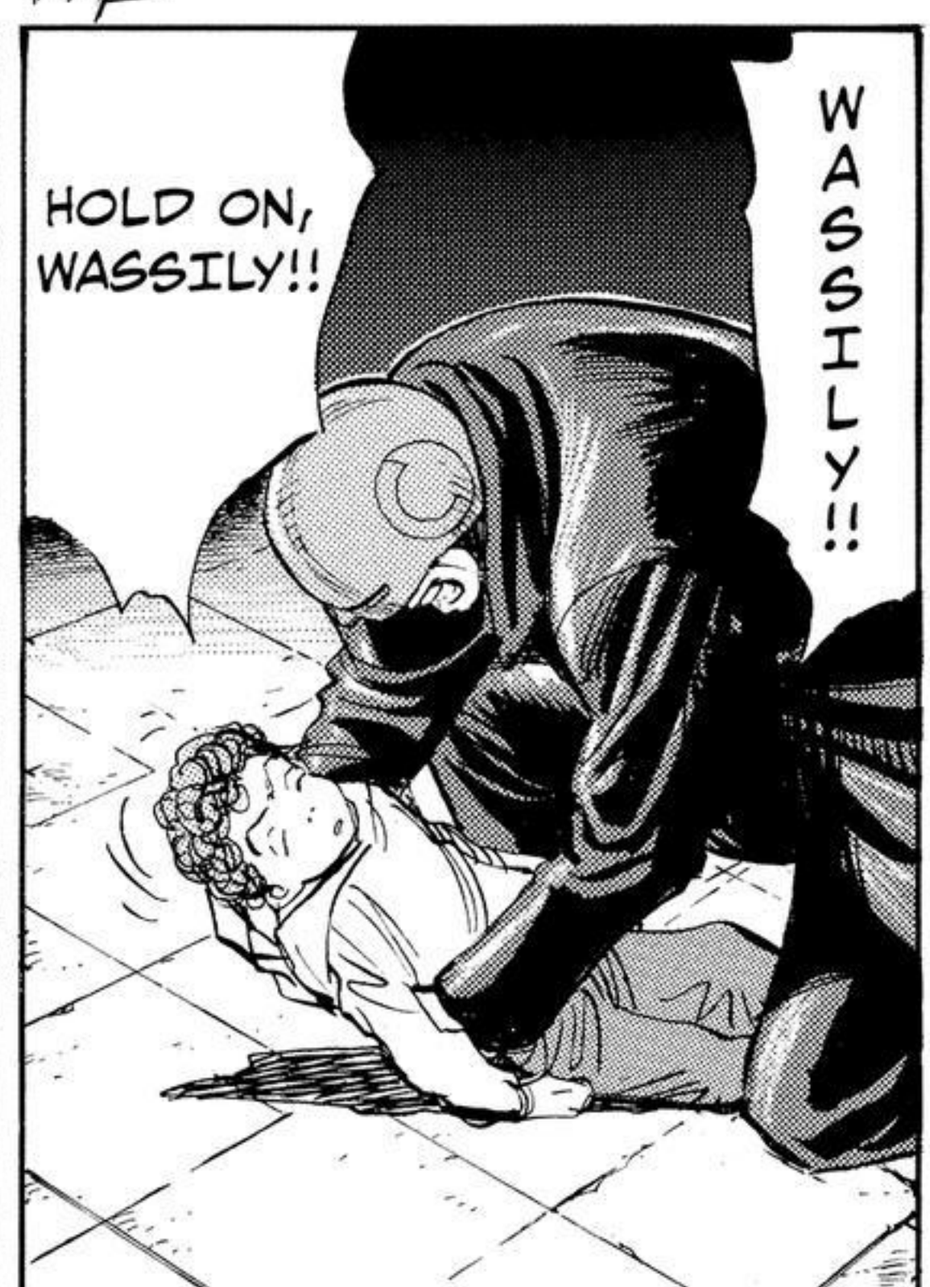
ARGHH!!

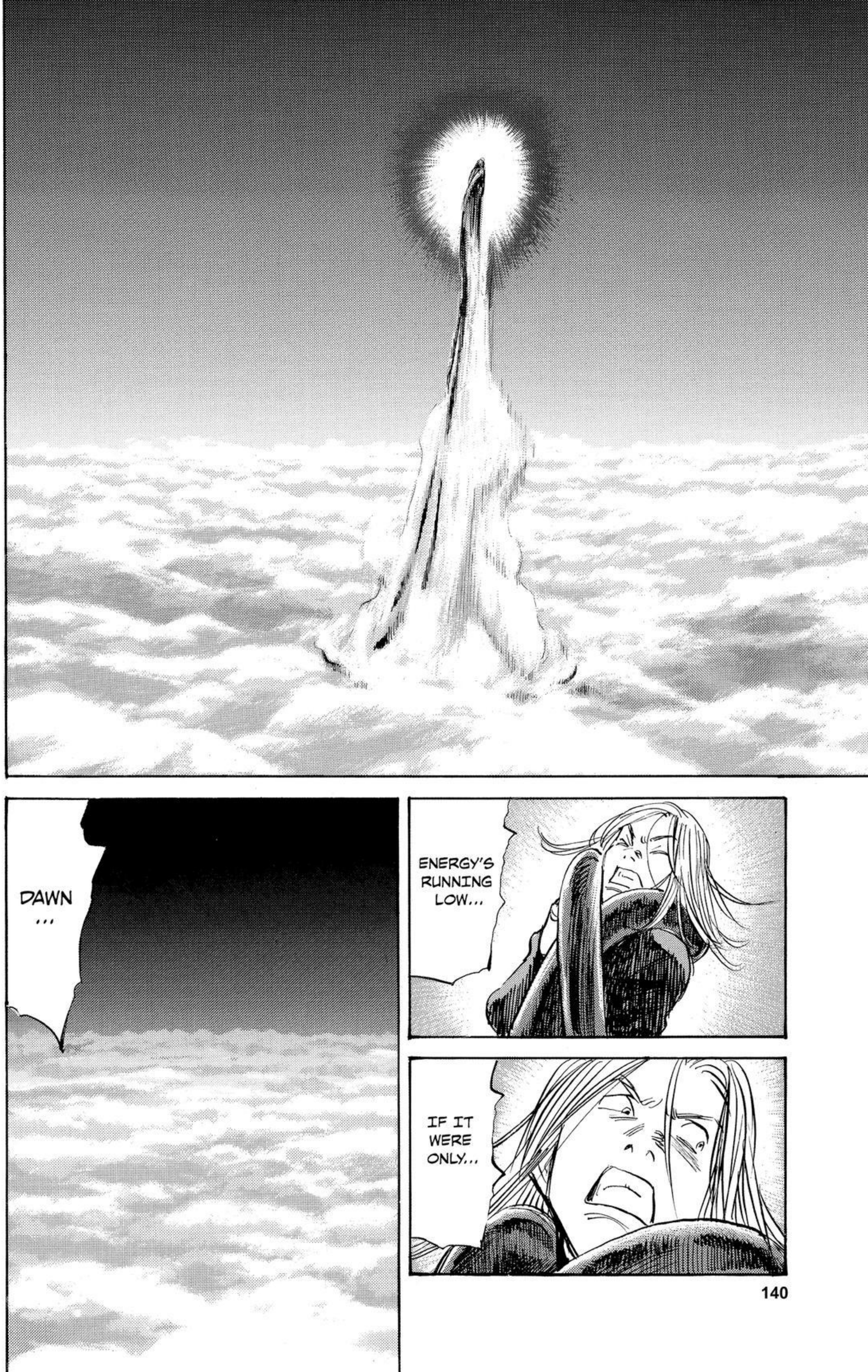
THOOK

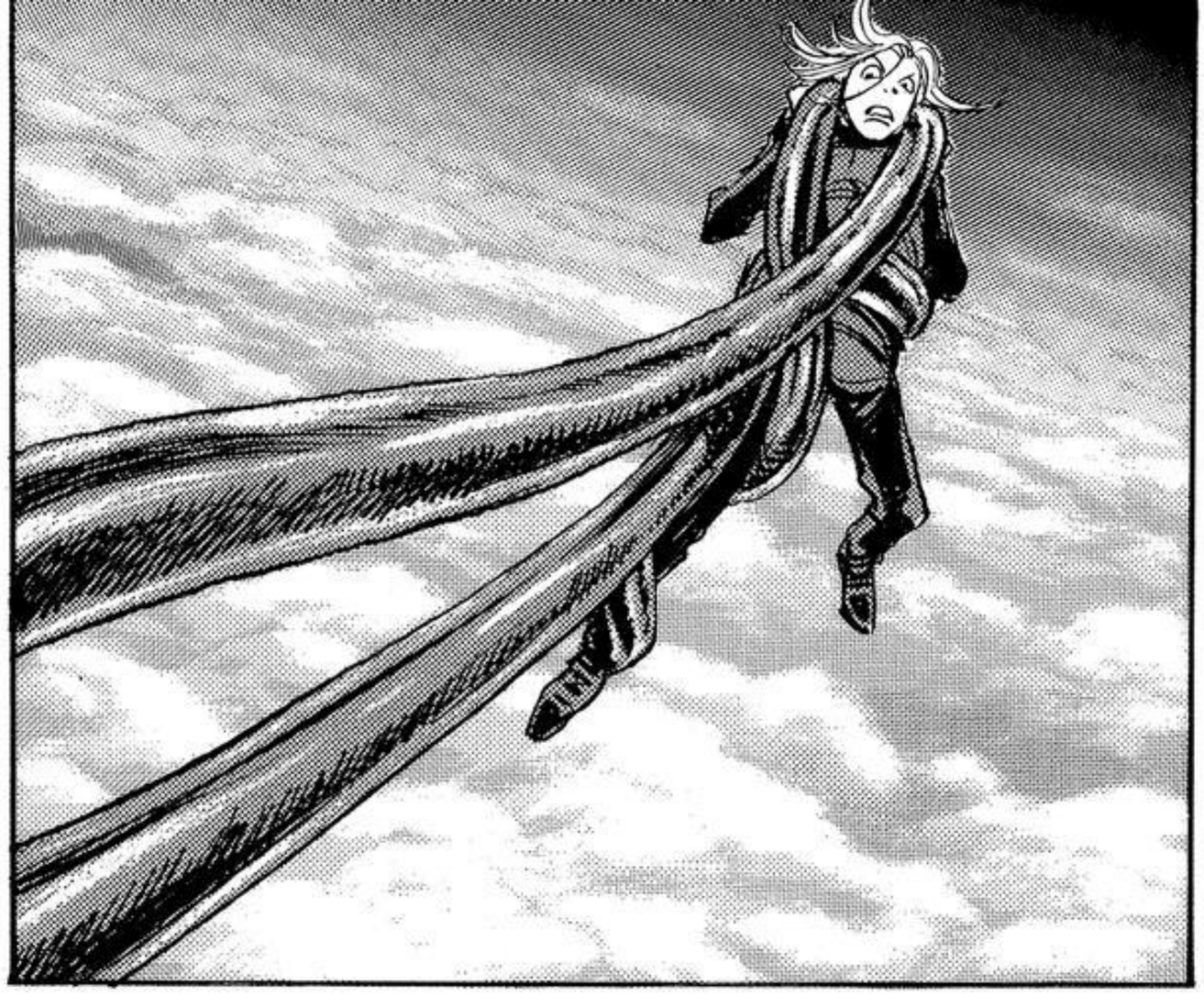
SO MUCH POWER... AND IT'S STILL DARK...

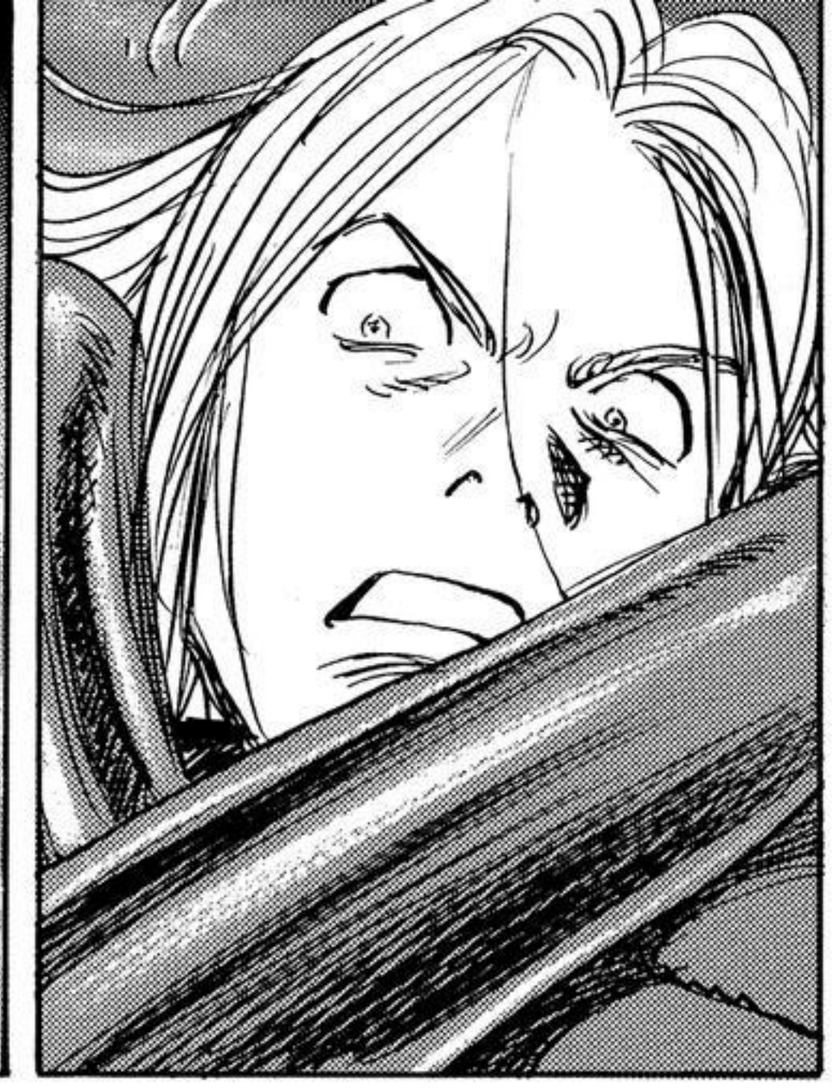
RRRHHHWWW
RUSH

RRHMMM




DAWN ...
ENERGY'S RUNNING LOW...
IF IT WERE ONLY...



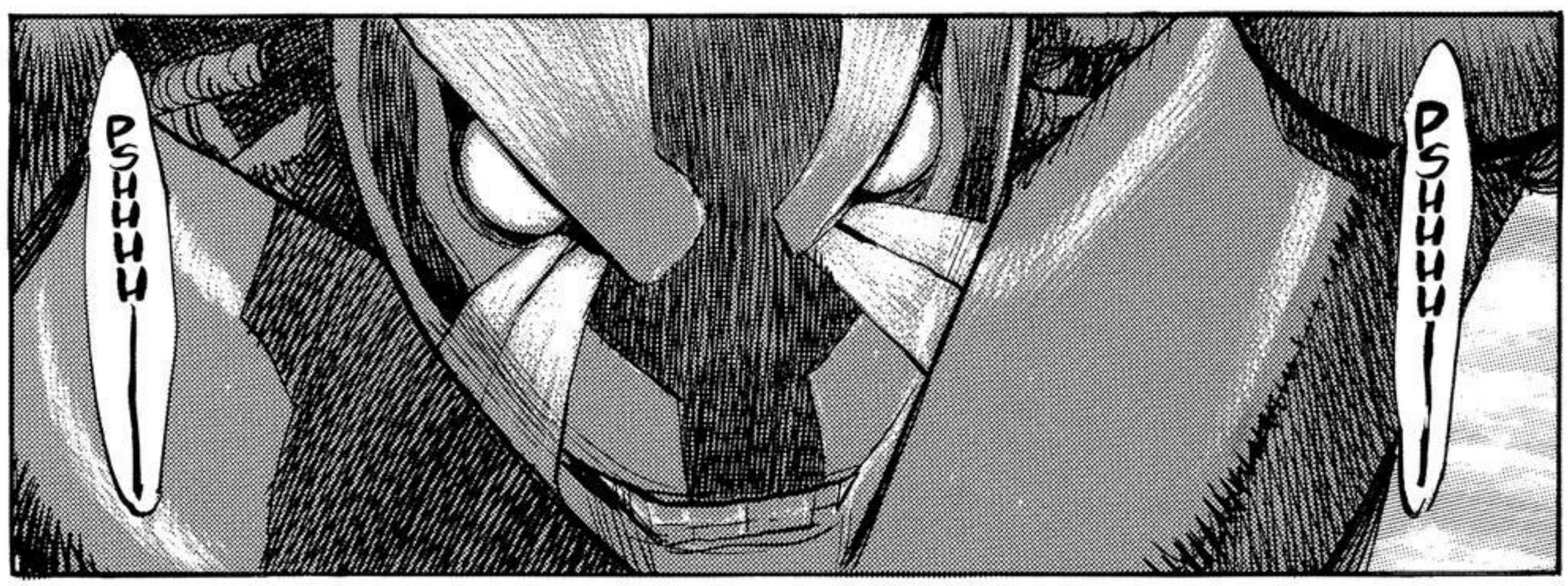


PSHHH

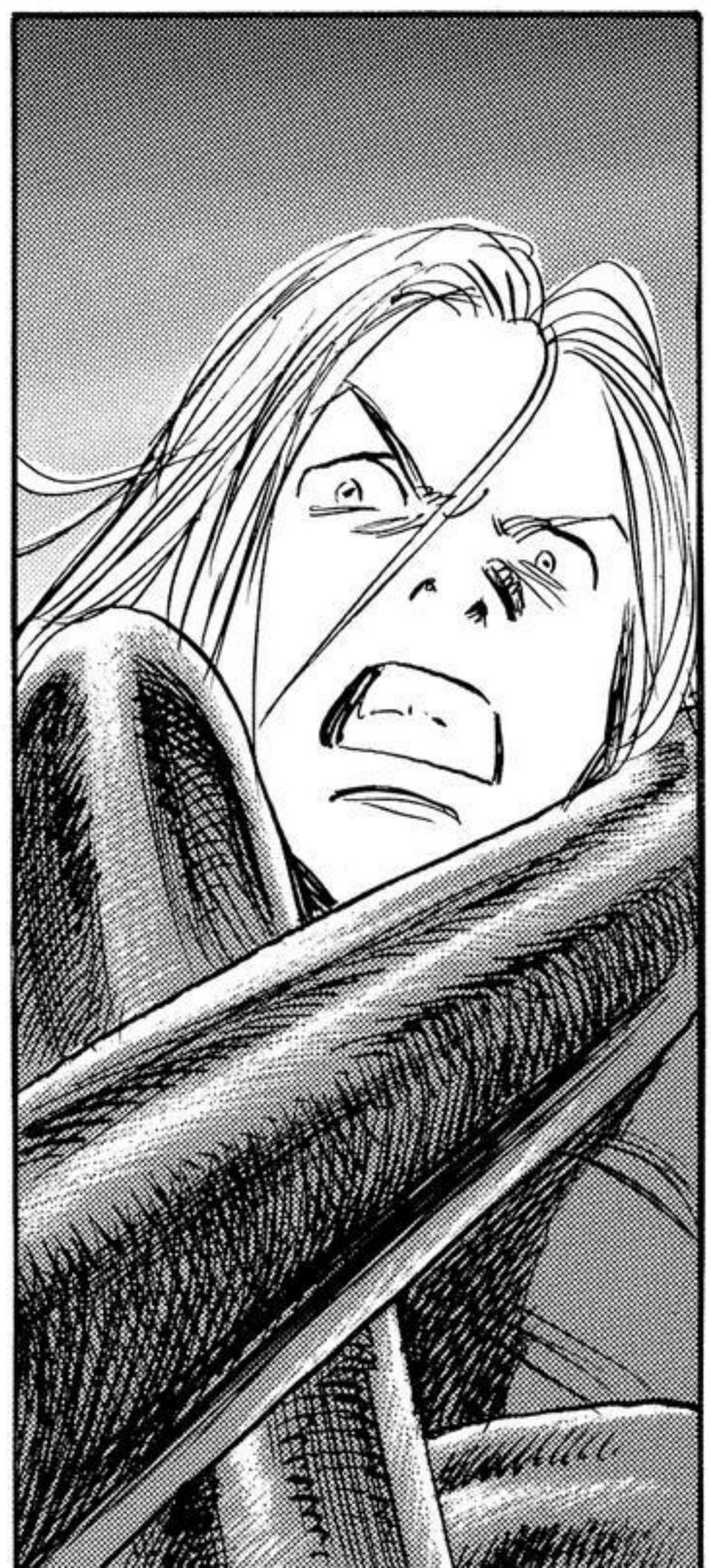
PSHHH

TIME TO FINISH HIM OFF!

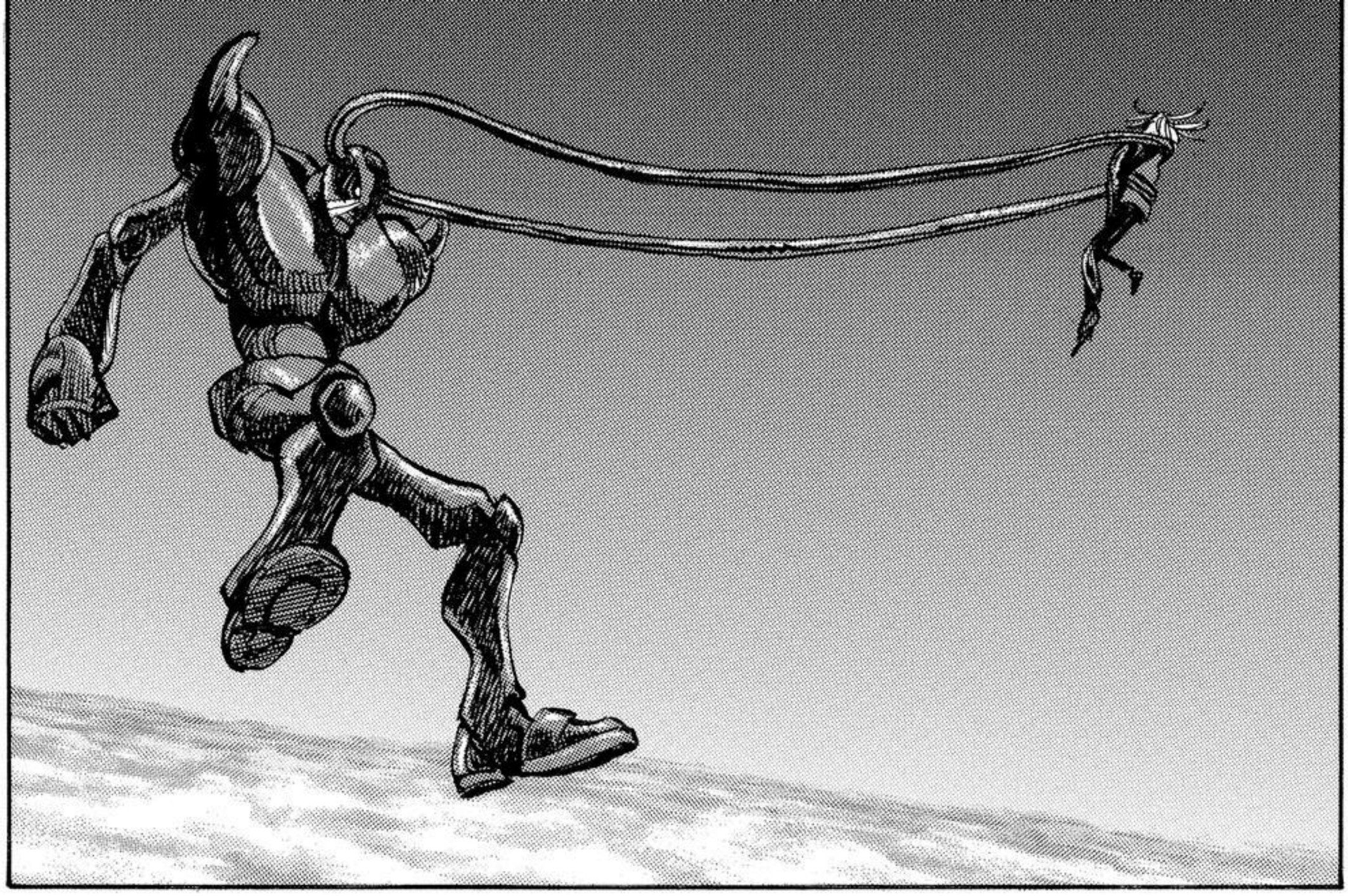
IT'S TIME, PLUTO!


PSHHHH—
PSHHHH—

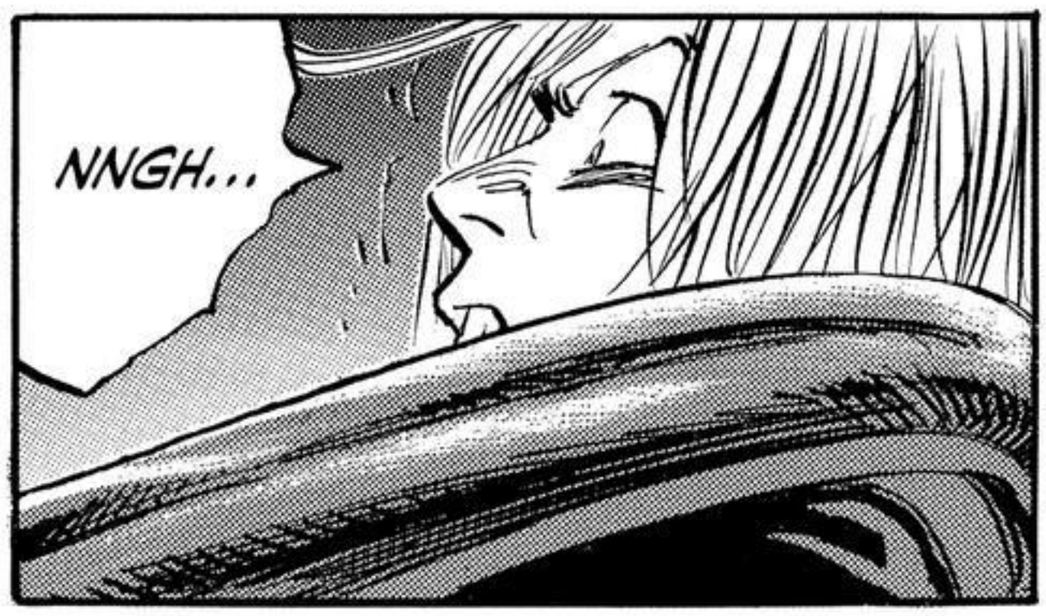
WASSILY'S SAFE!!

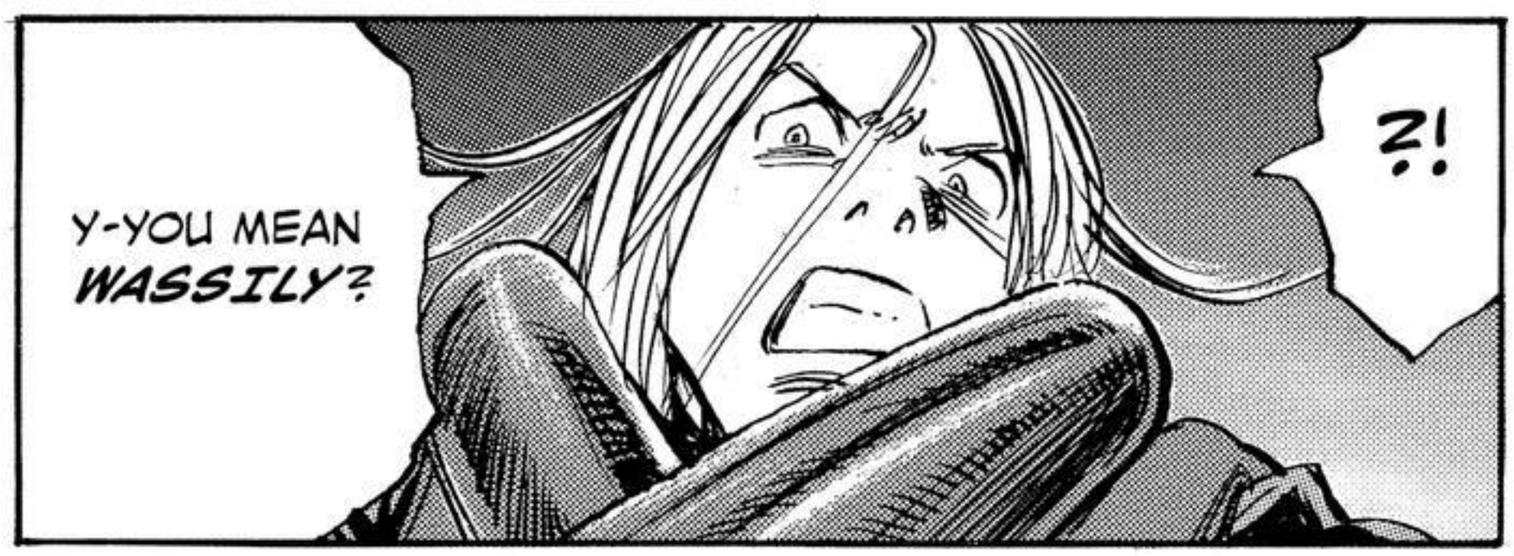


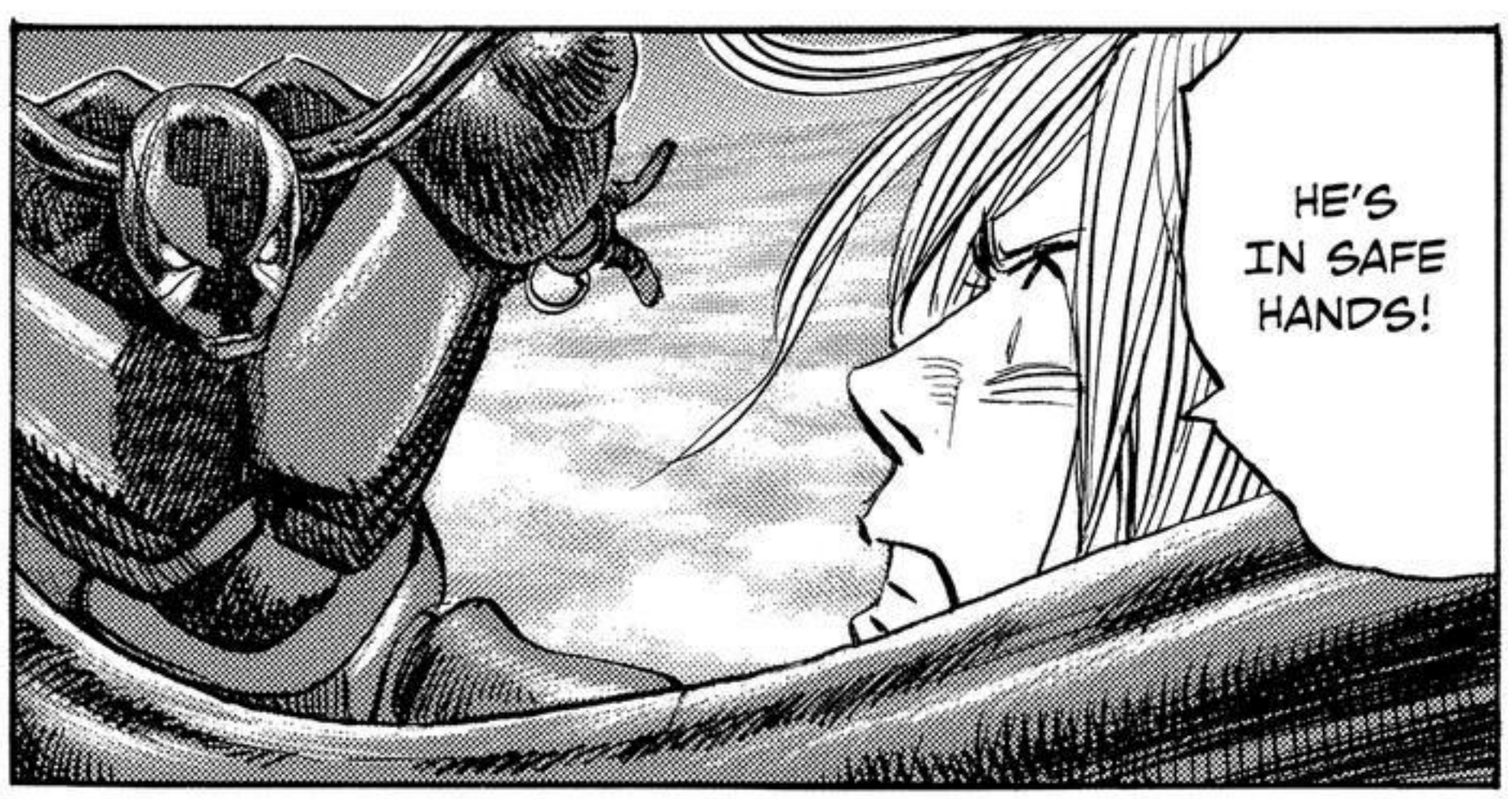
EPSILON! THE BOY'S *SAFE*!!
EPSHLON...

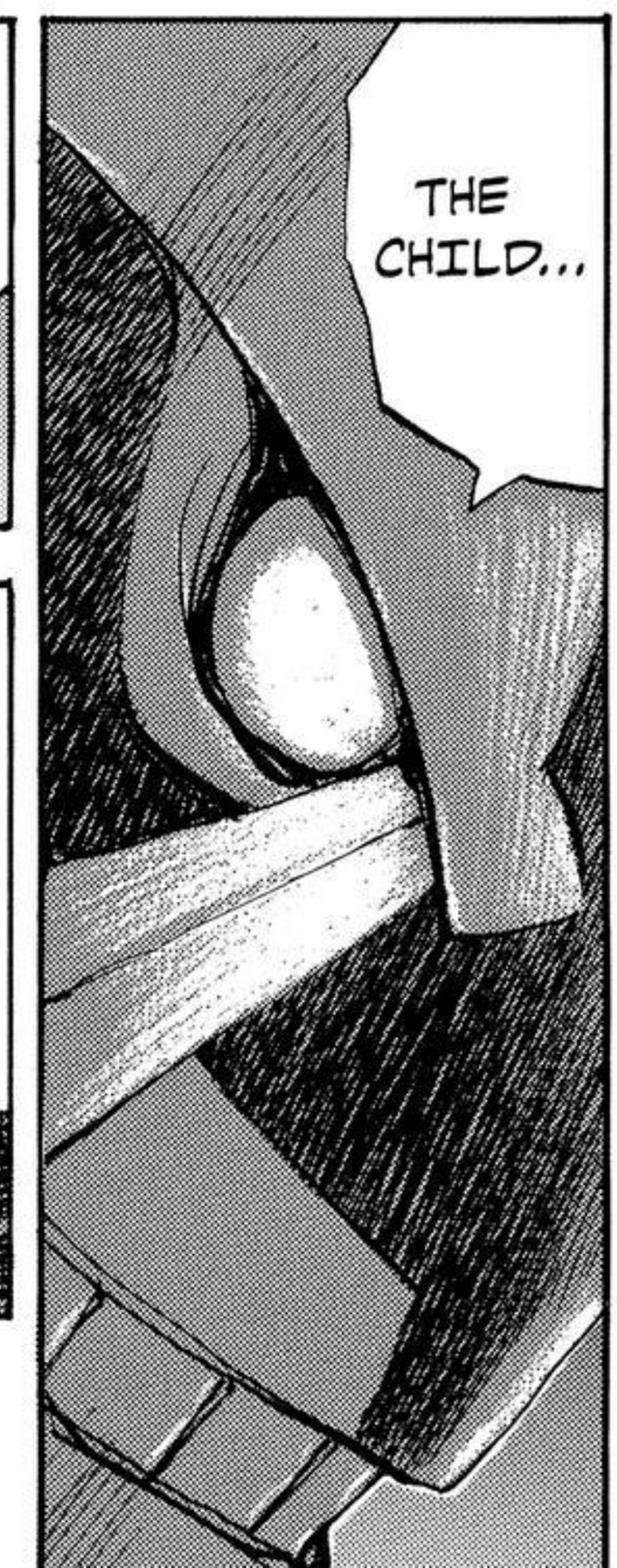


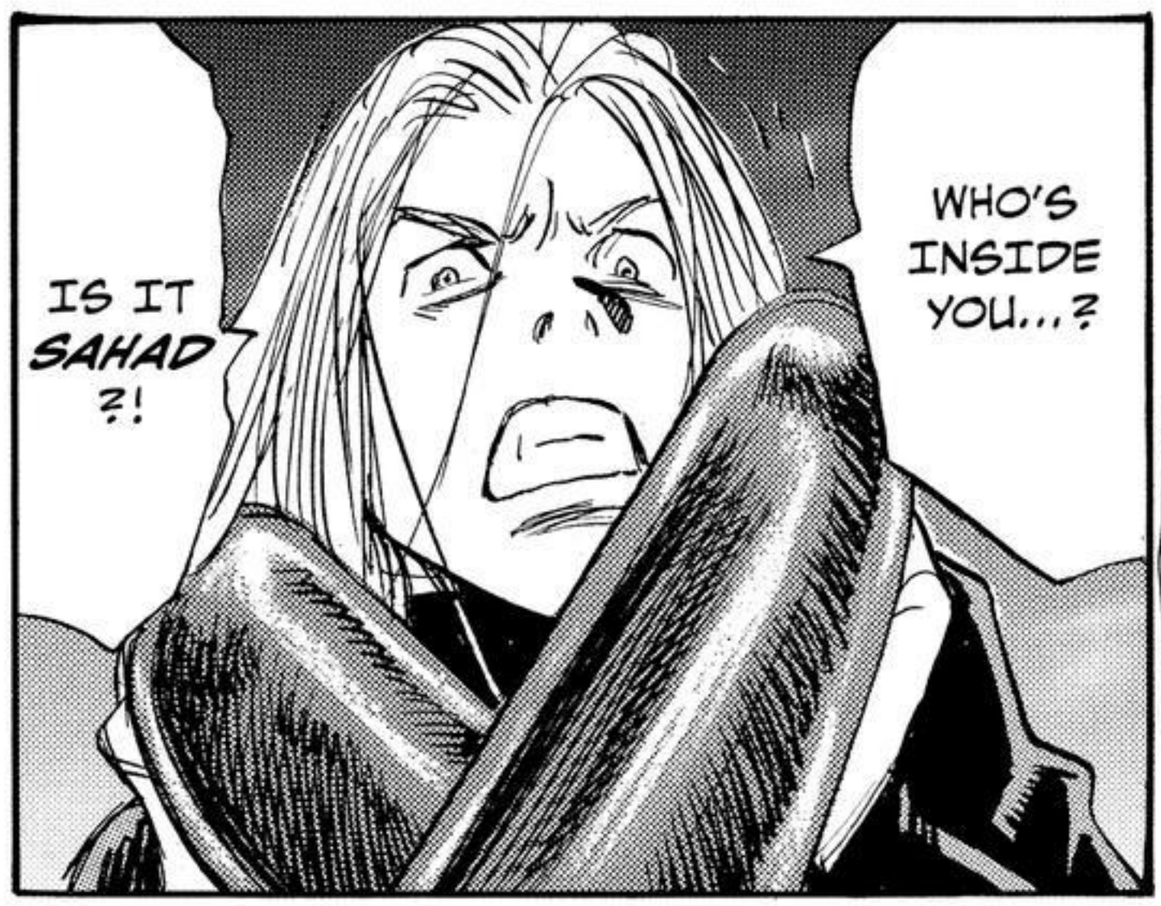
THE...


NNGH...


Y-YOU MEAN WASSILY?
?!


HE'S IN SAFE HANDS!

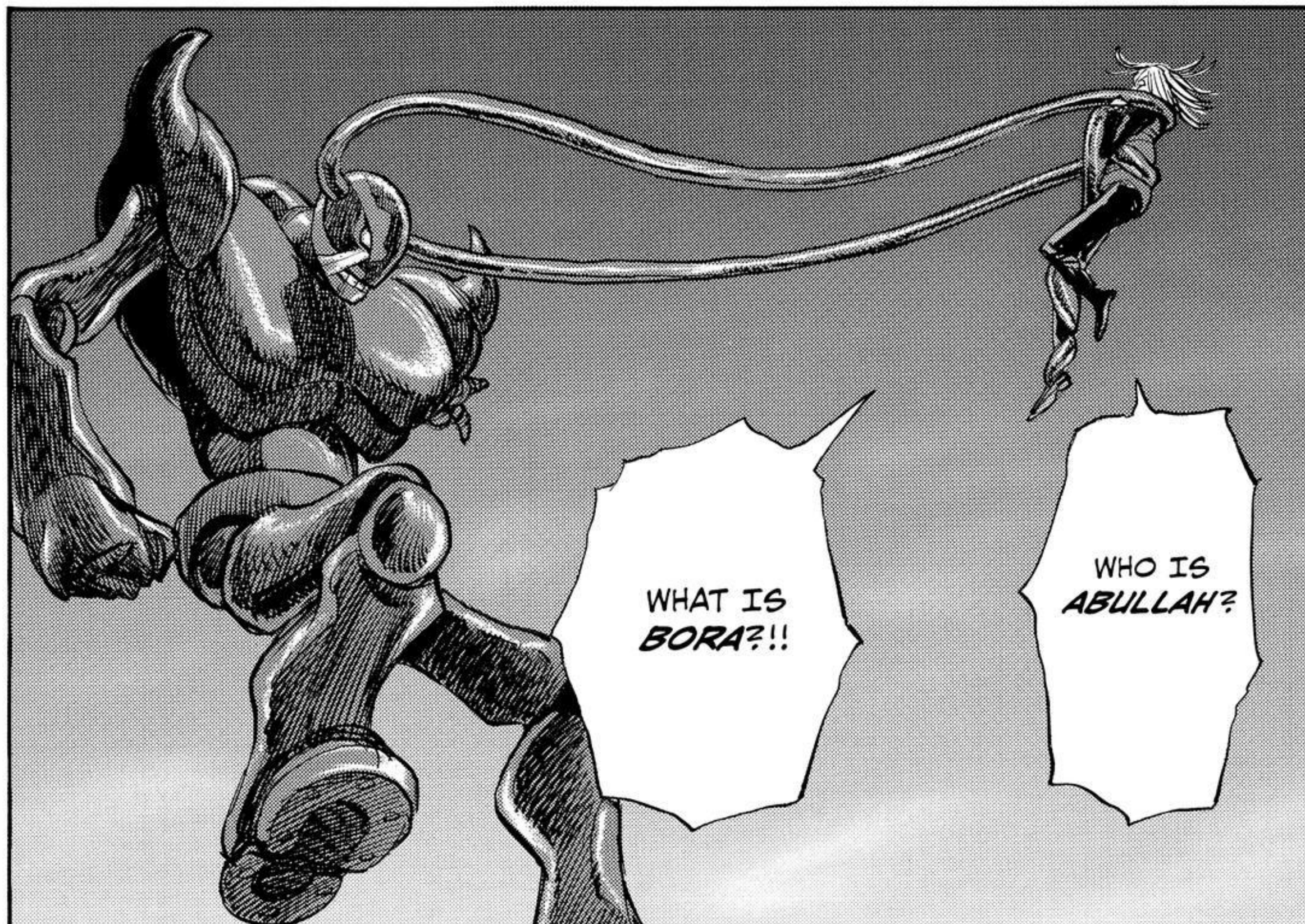

THE CHILD...

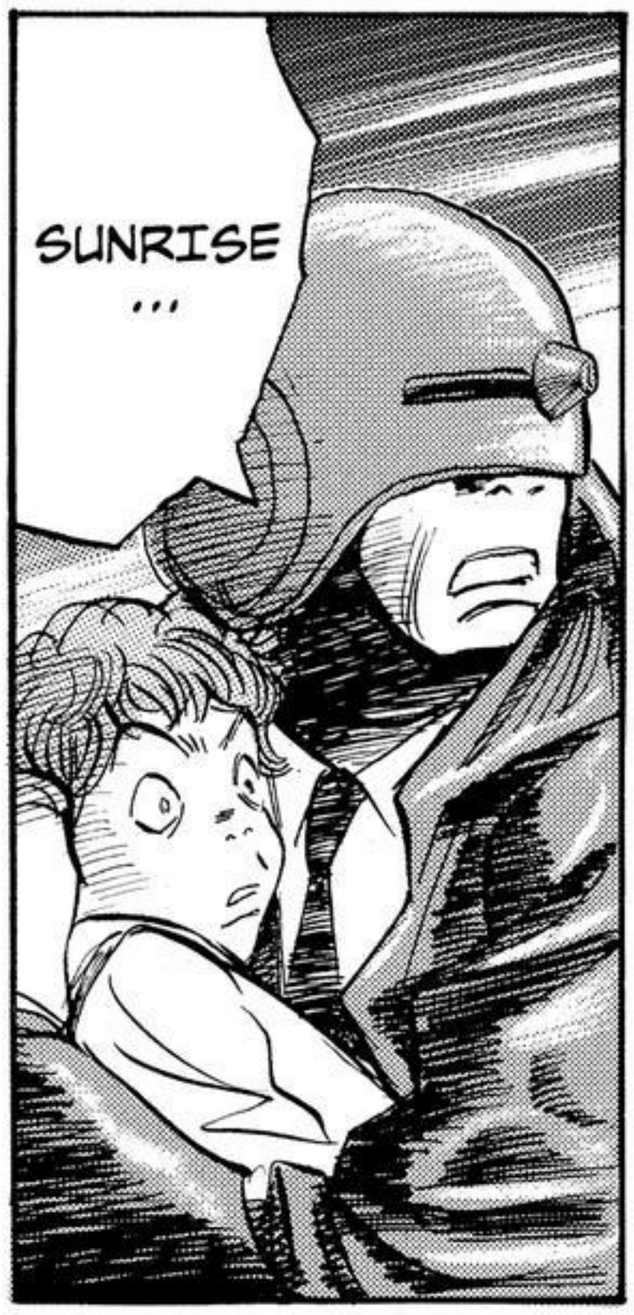

IS IT SAHAD ?!
WHO'S INSIDE YOU...?

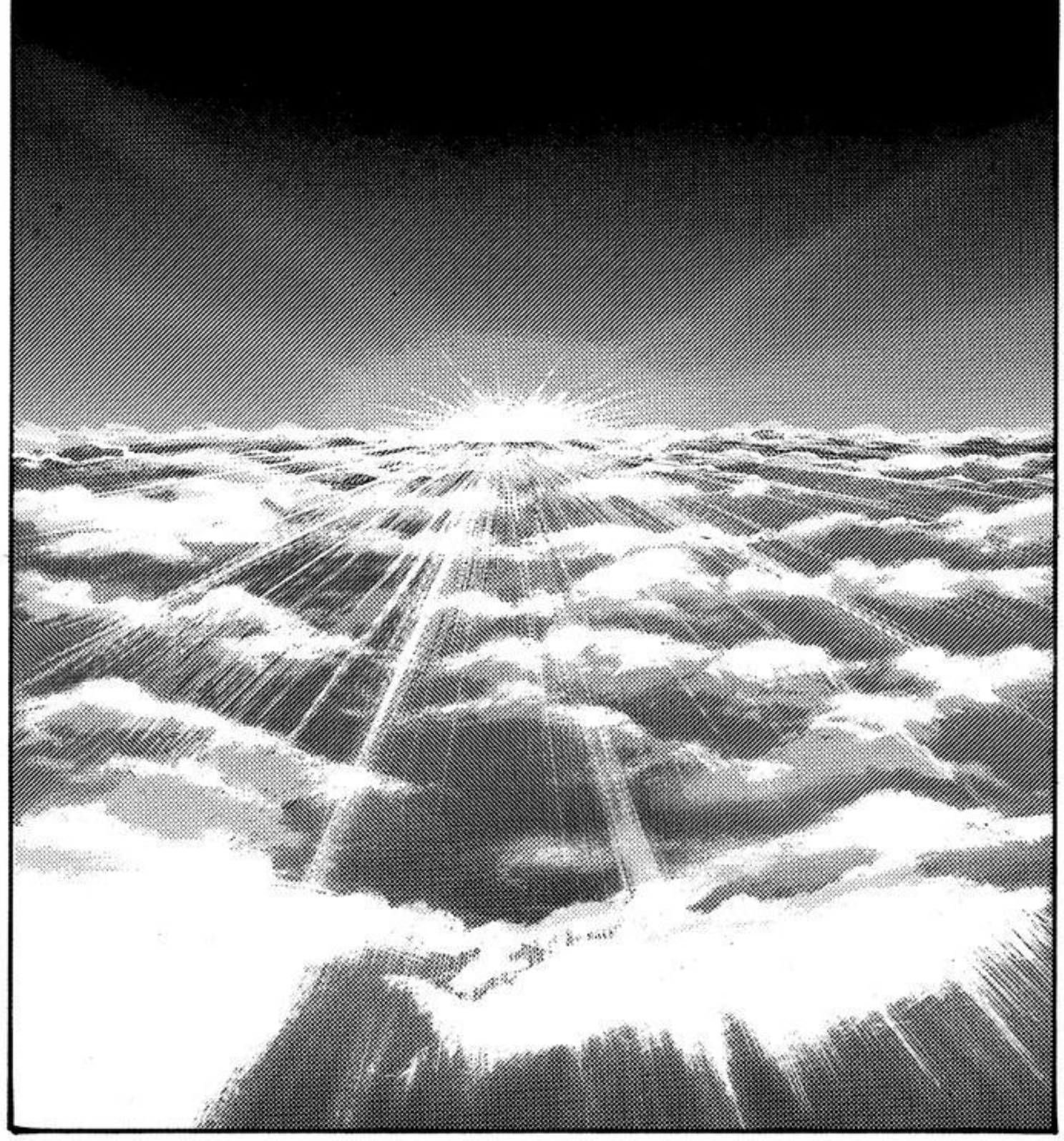
PSHH—
PSHH—

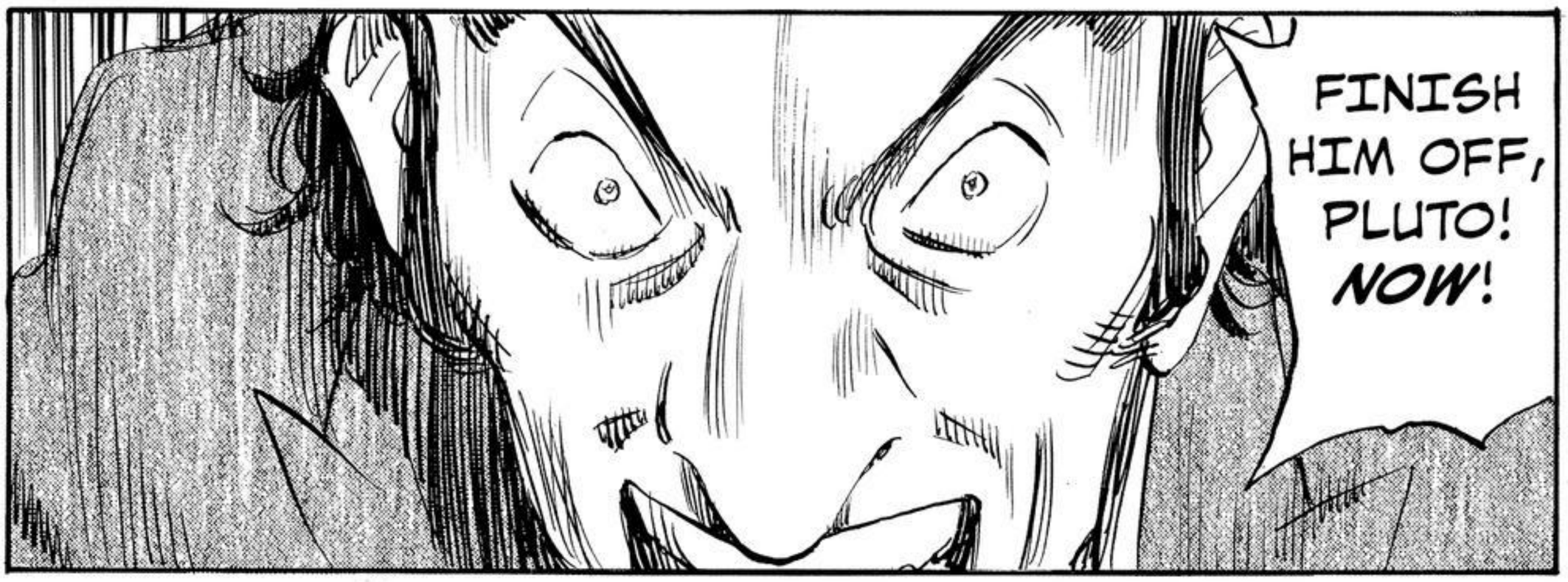
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

PSHHH—

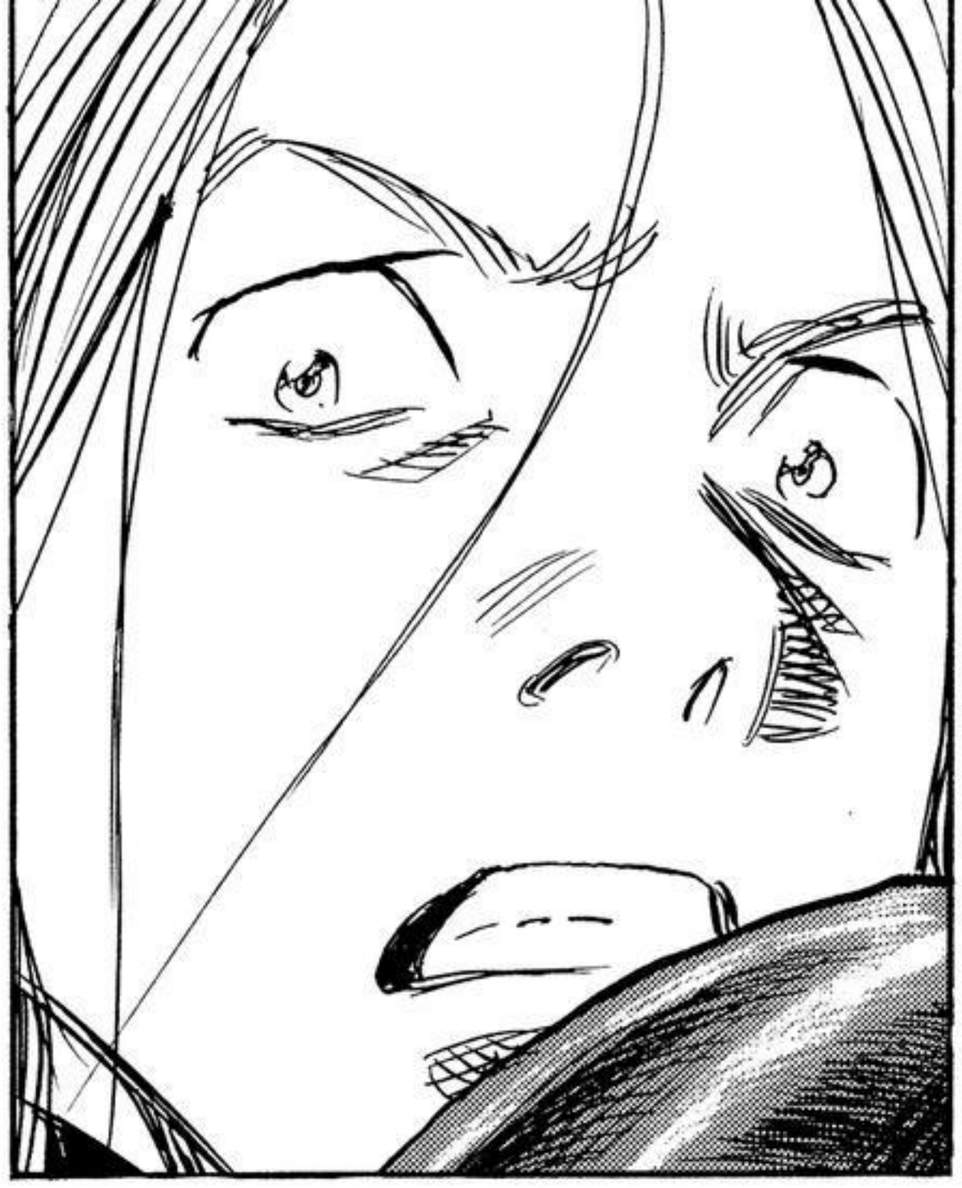

WHAT IS BORA?!!
WHO IS ABULLAH?

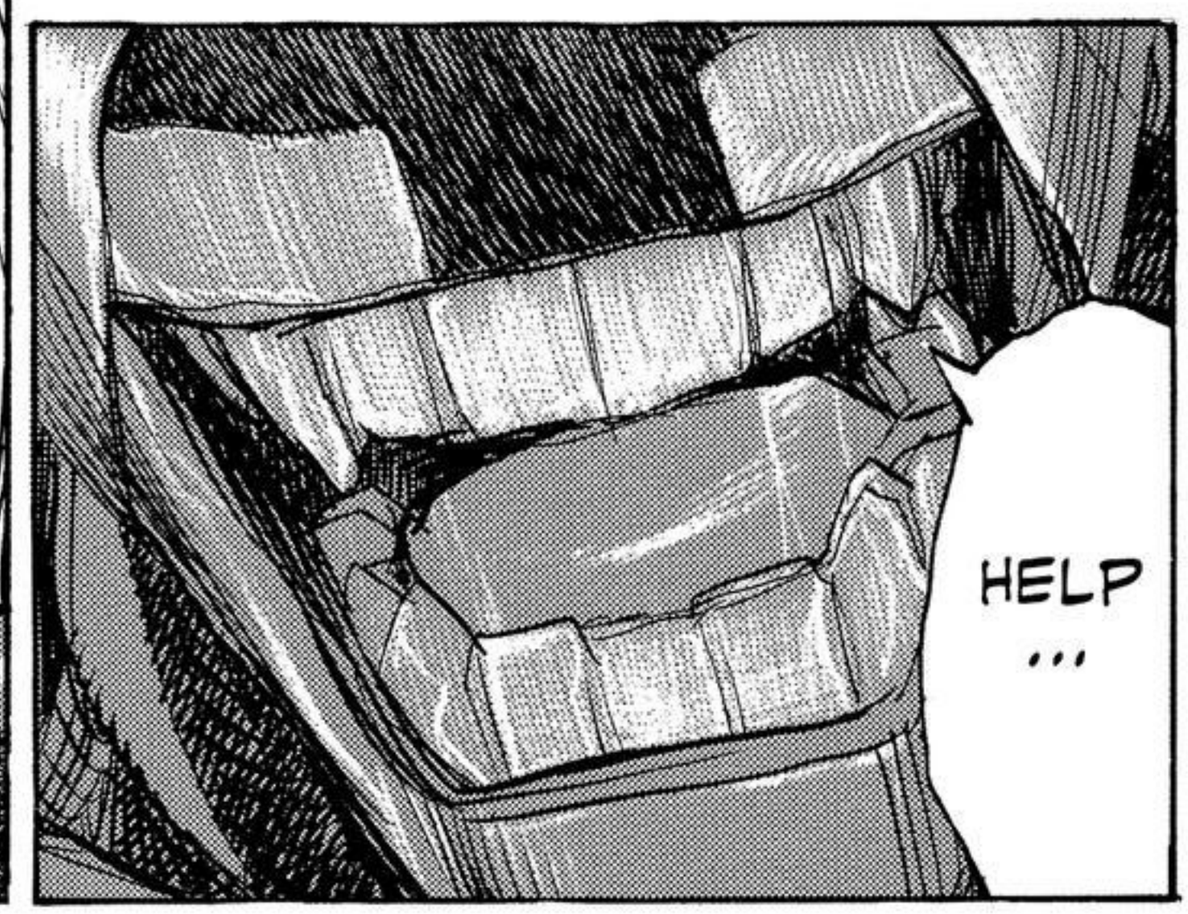

SUNRISE
...




FINISH HIM OFF, PLUTO! NOW!

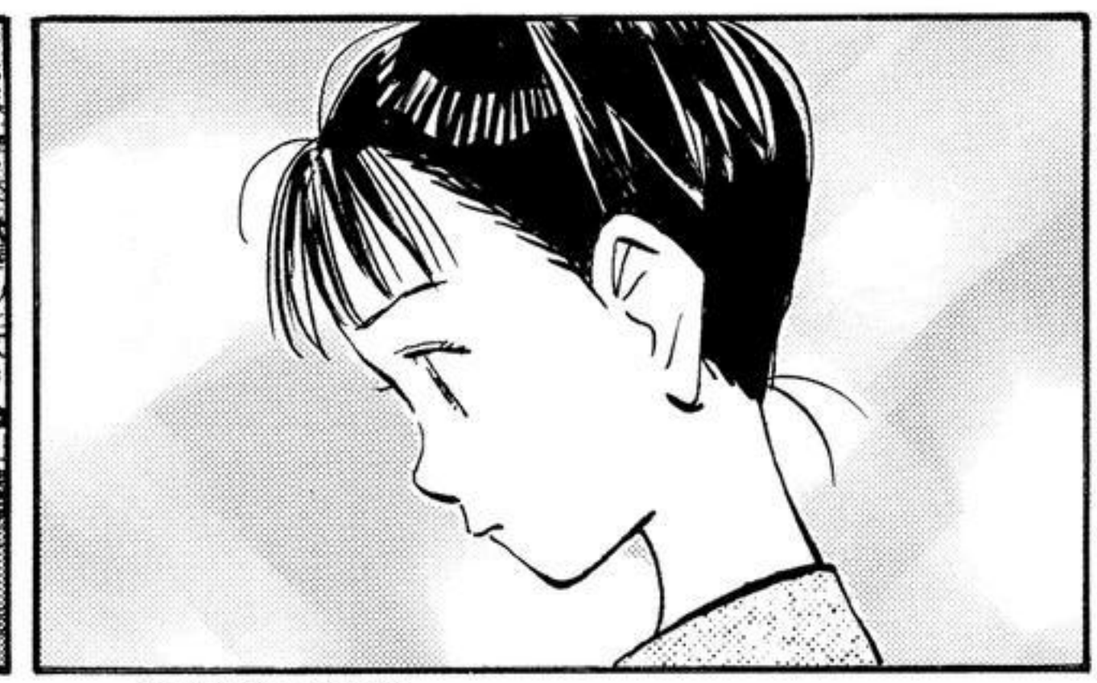
GRR...
GRAII!!



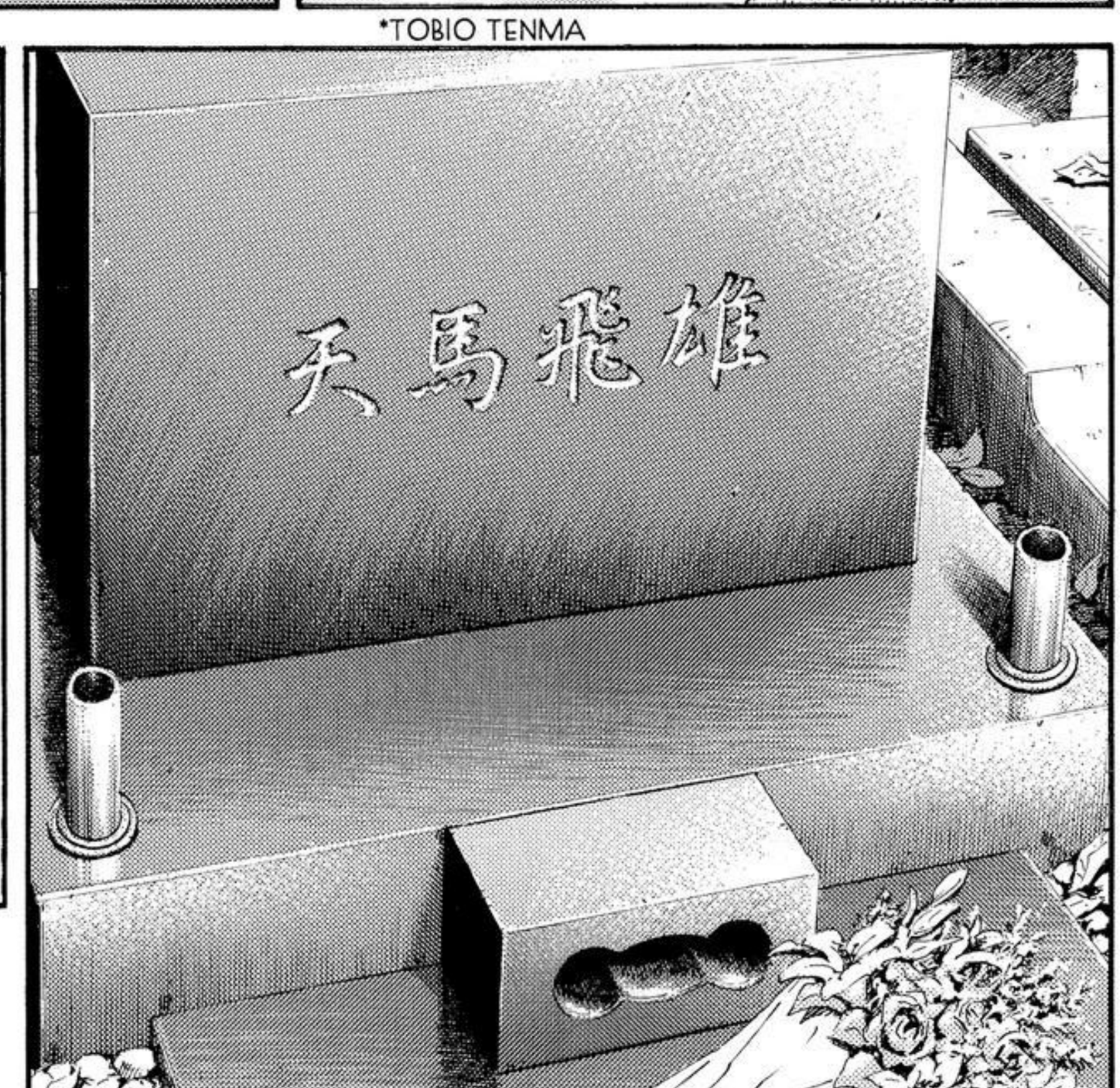


HELP...
ME...

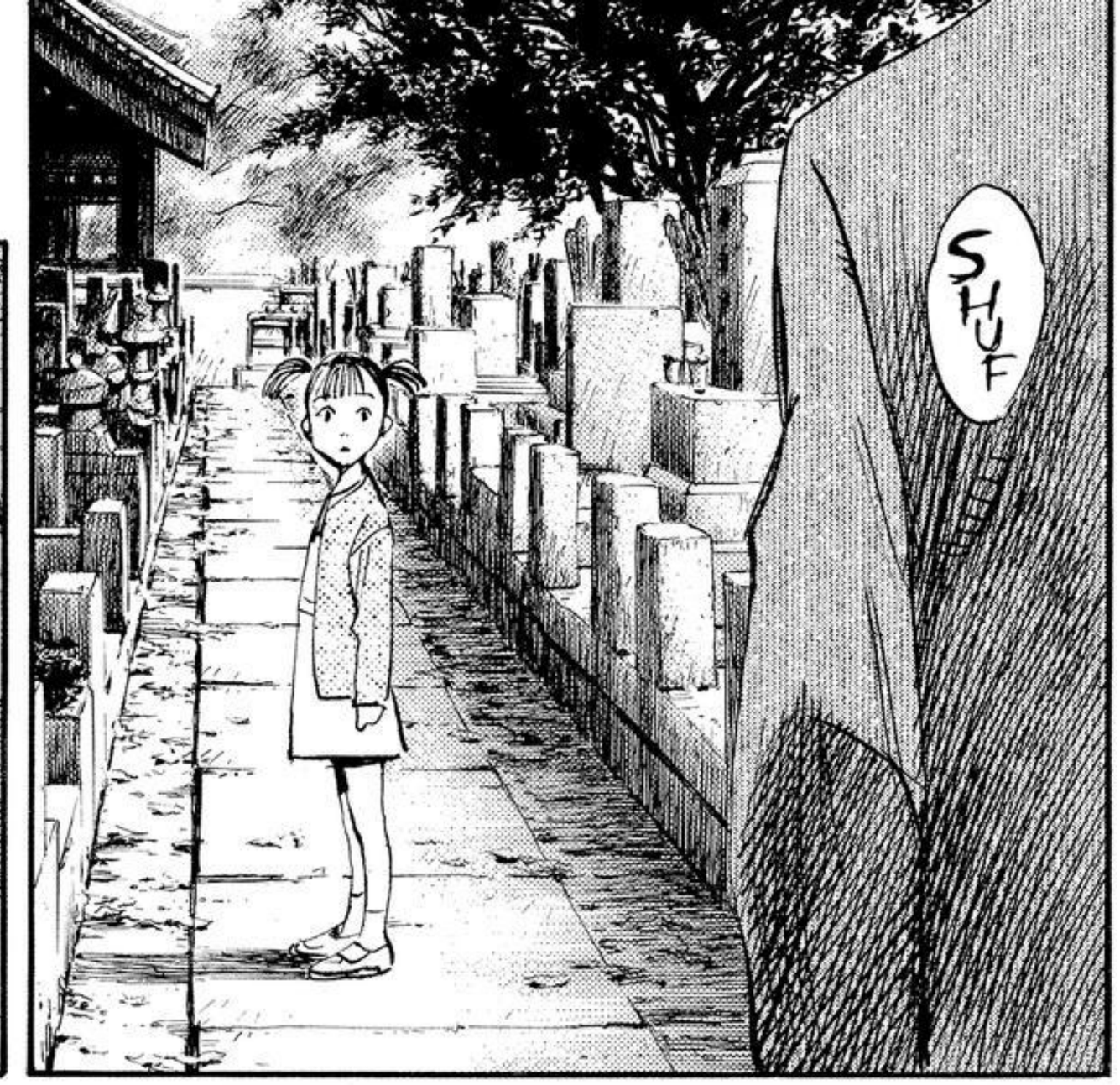
Act 54 BURGEONING GRIEF



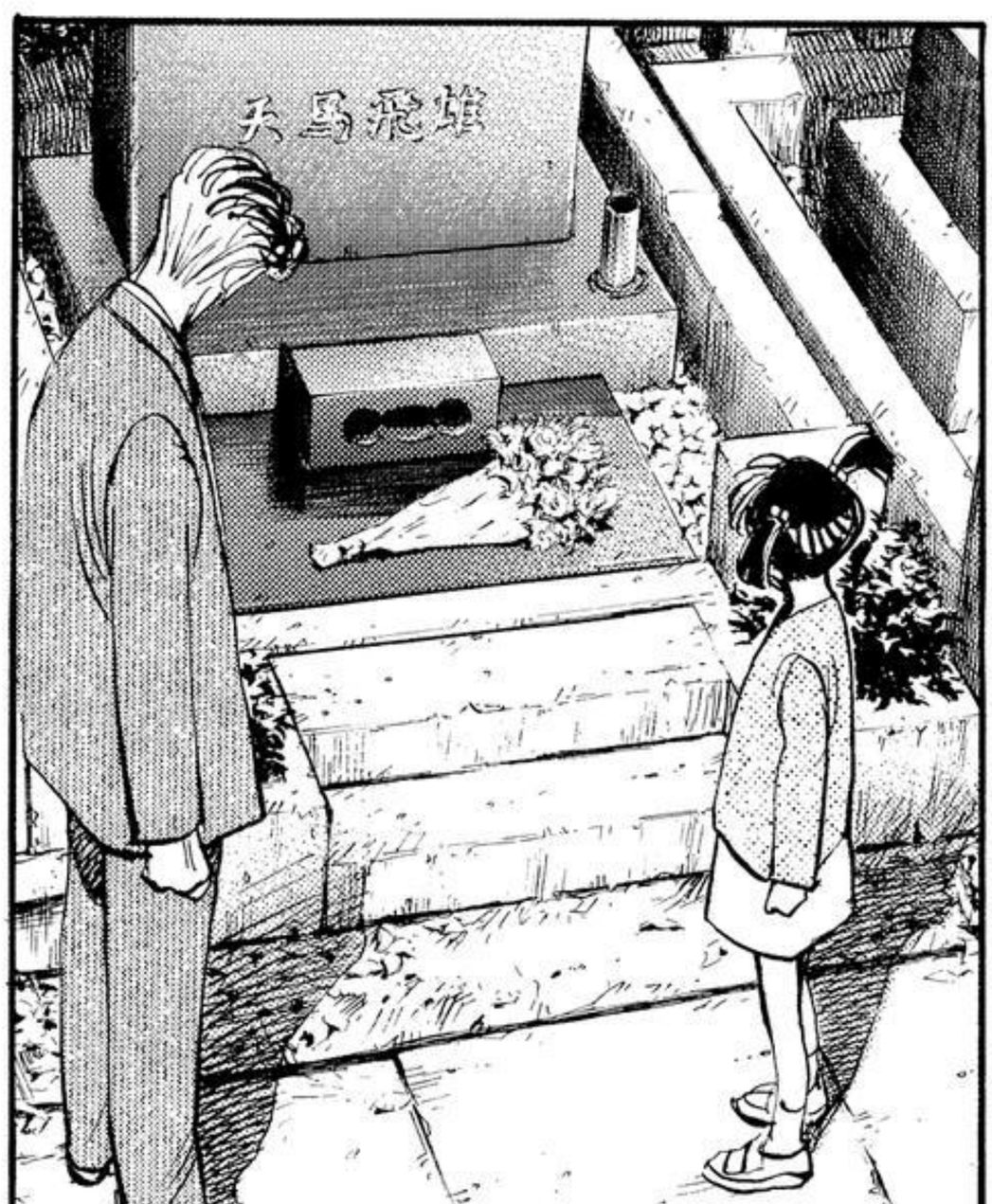
*TOBIO TENMA



SHUF
SO IT'S YOU...


SHUF

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S BEEN PUTTING FLOWERS ON TOBIO'S GRAVE...


天馬飛雄

WHO ARE YOU...?

THIS IS MY SON'S GRAVE...

ATOM'S LITTLE SISTER...

LET ME GUESS, YOU'RE...

URAN.

... PROFES-SOR *TENMA.*

YOU'RE ...

OCHANO-MIZU'S TRUE MASTER-PIECE...

WHAT AN AMAZING ROBOT YOU ARE...

I WONDER WHAT TOBIO'S DOING, UP IN HEAVEN...

A ROBOT VISITING A GRAVE...

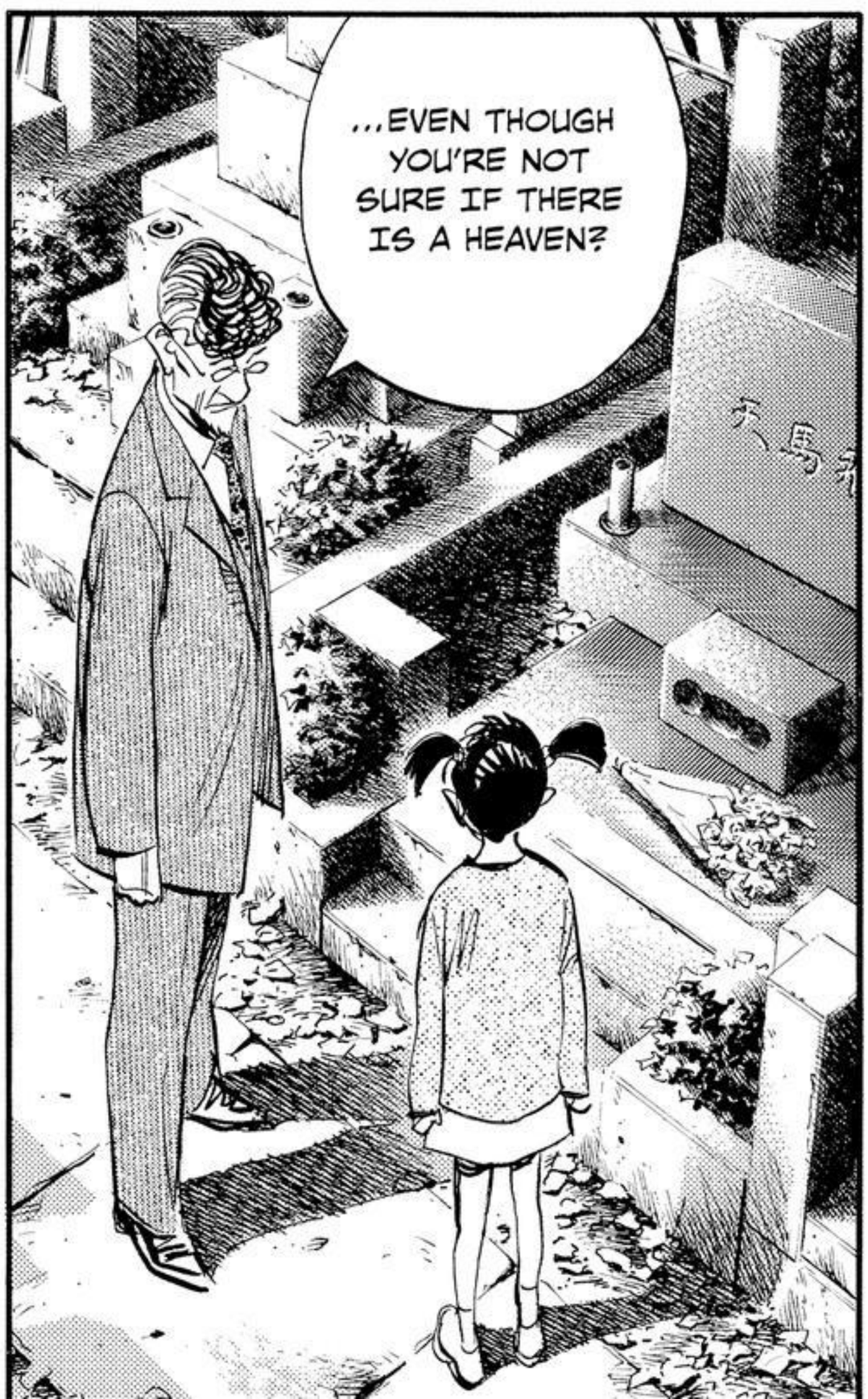
BUT...

I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S A HEAVEN OR NOT...

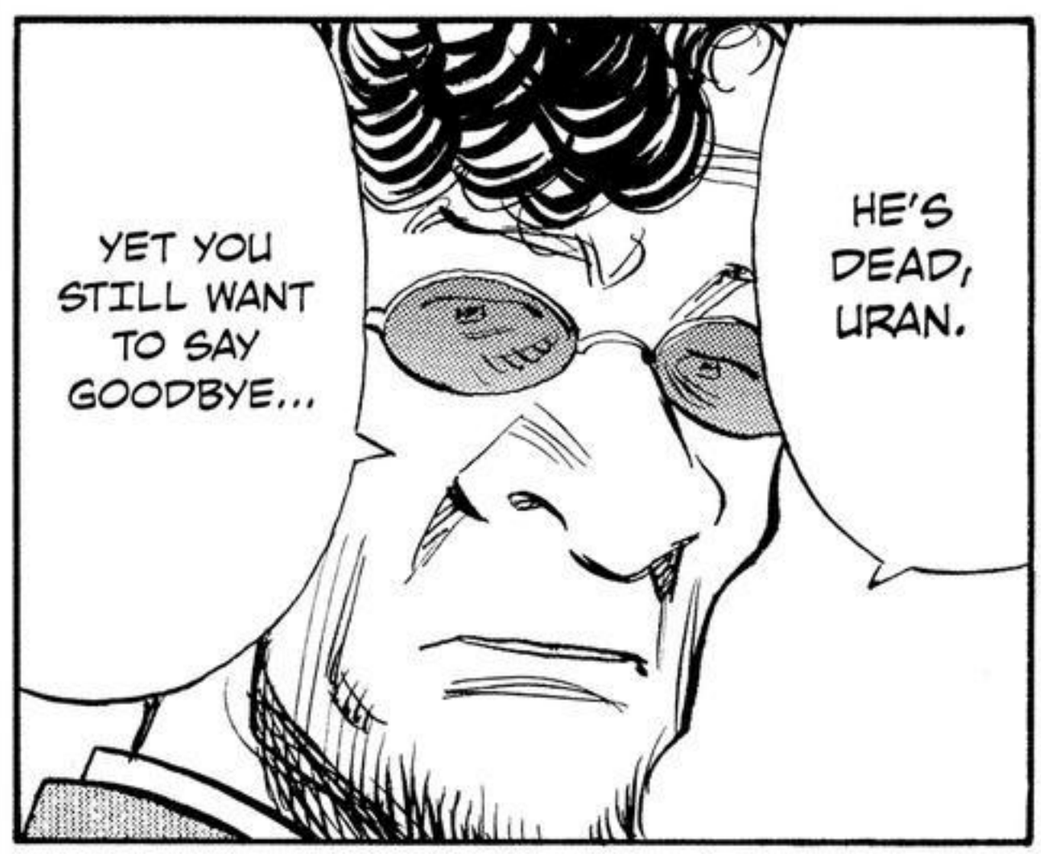
BUT I DO KNOW YOU ARE GRIEVING, PROFESSOR.

CAN I SEE MY BROTHER, PROFES-SOR?

CAN YOU UNDER-STAND WHAT GRIEF IS, URAN...?


...EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE NOT SURE IF THERE IS A HEAVEN?

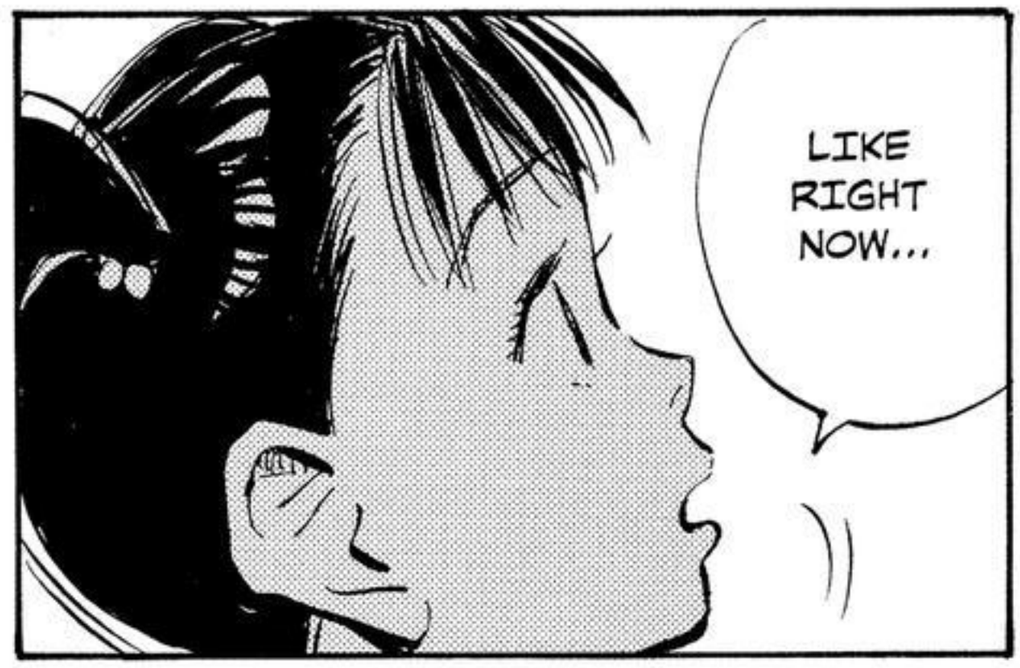
I JUST WANT TO SAY GOODBYE TO HIM.

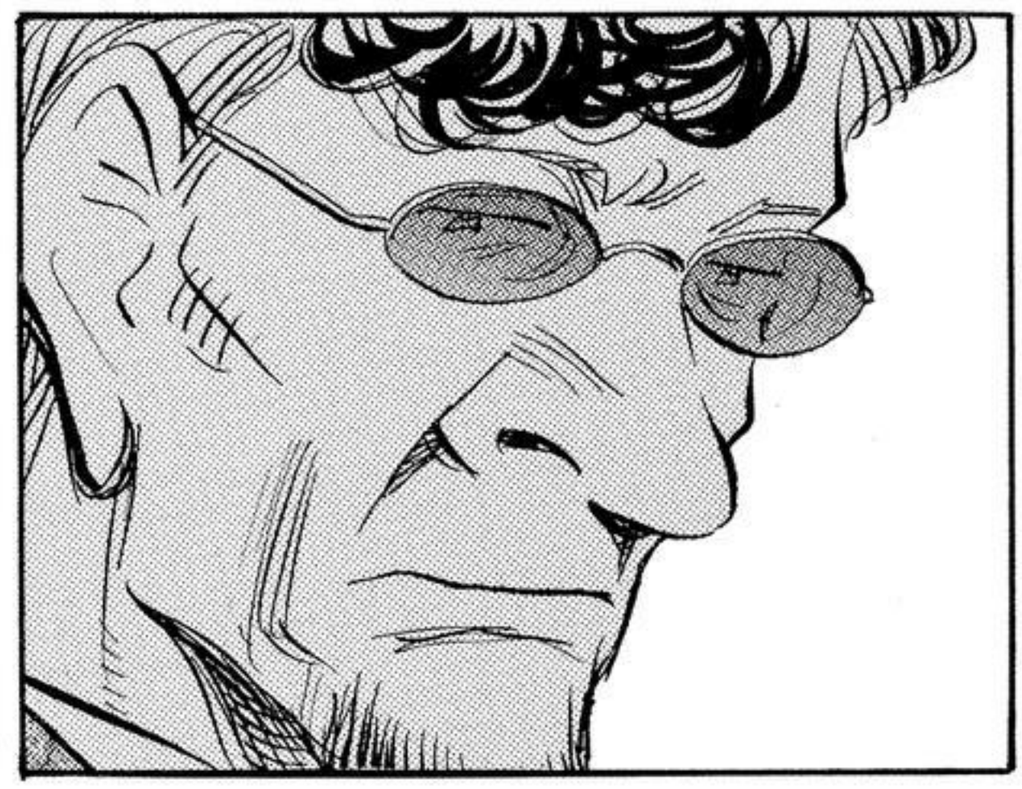

YET YOU STILL WANT TO SAY GOODBYE...
HE'S DEAD, URAN.

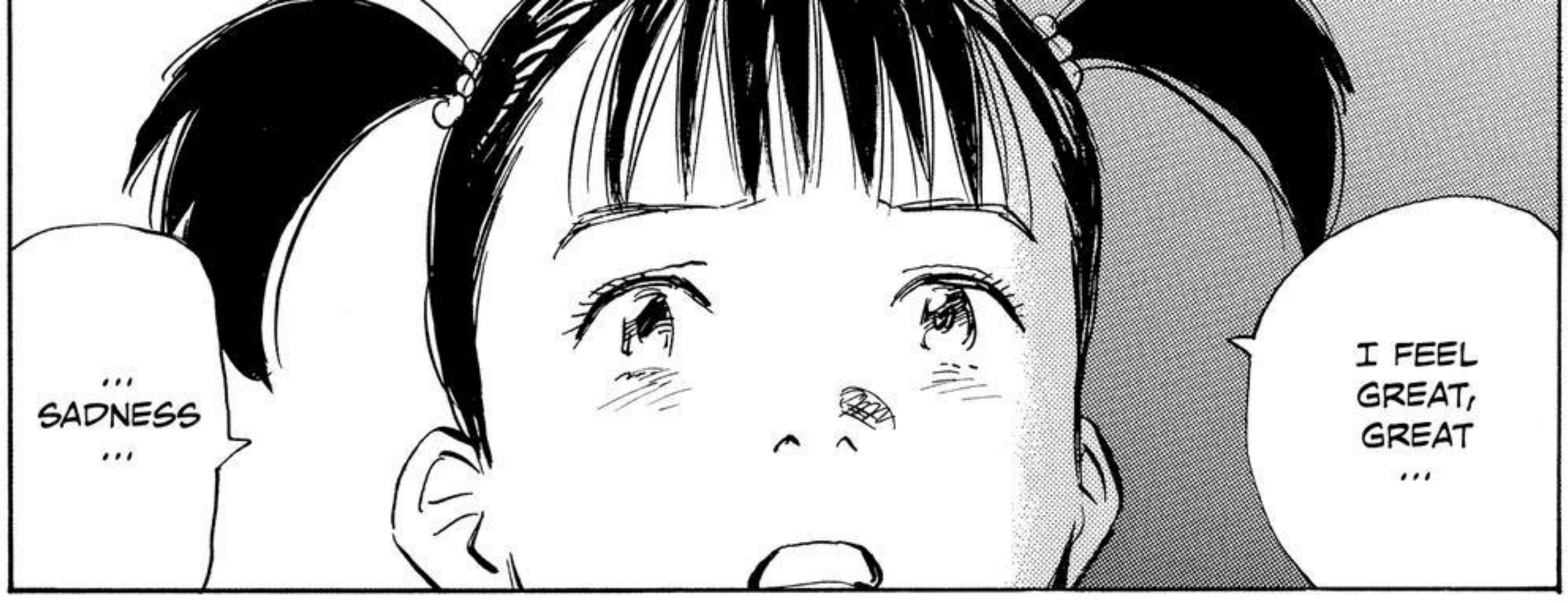
IT'S MORE LIKE *EMOTIONS* ...
NOT MINDS...

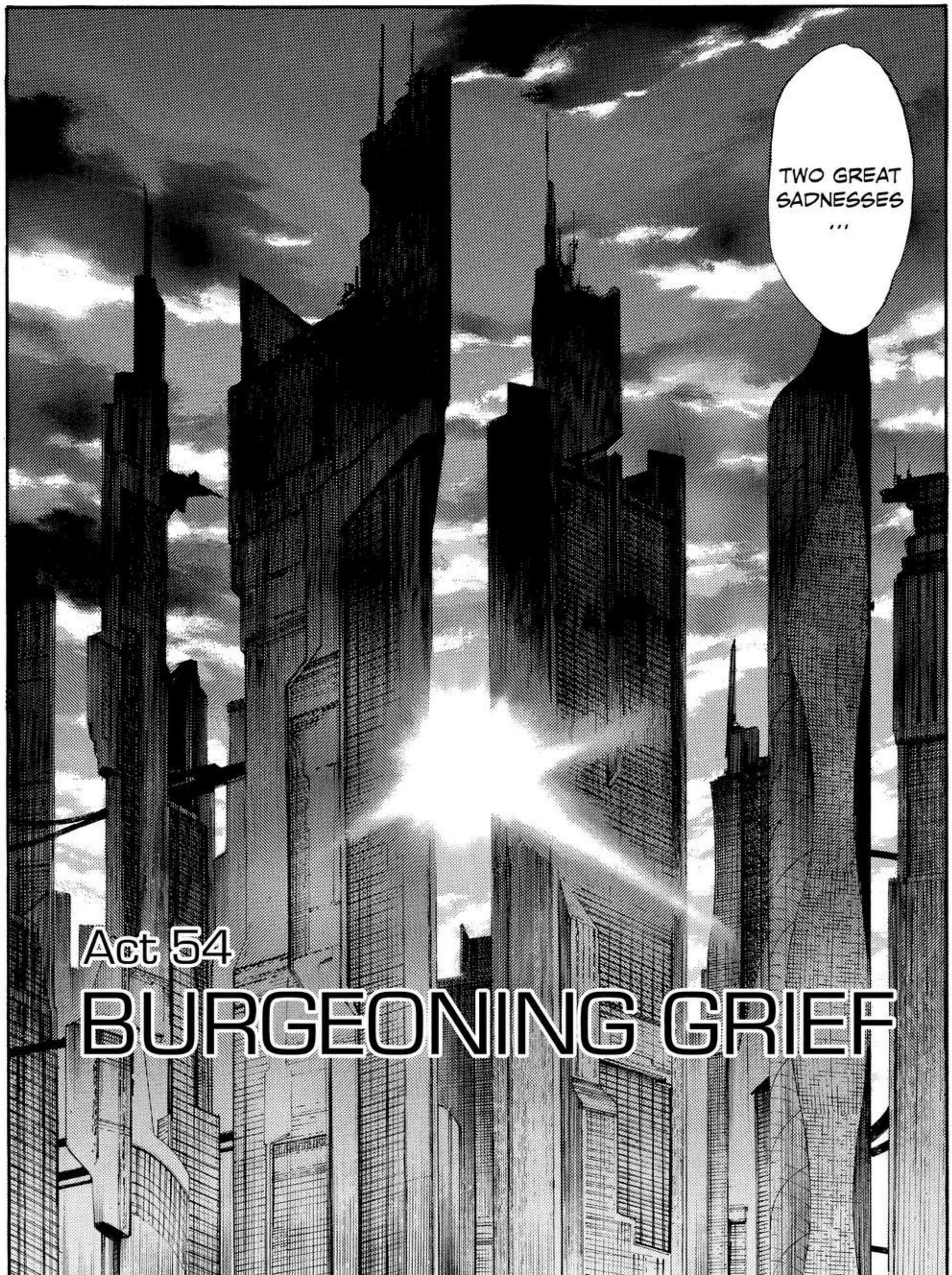
...THAT YOU CAN READ PEOPLE'S MINDS.
I HEARD FROM PROFESSOR OCHANO-MIZU...

I CAN SENSE TWO REALLY STRONG EMOTIONS ...
SOME-WHERE... REALLY FAR AWAY...


LIKE RIGHT NOW...

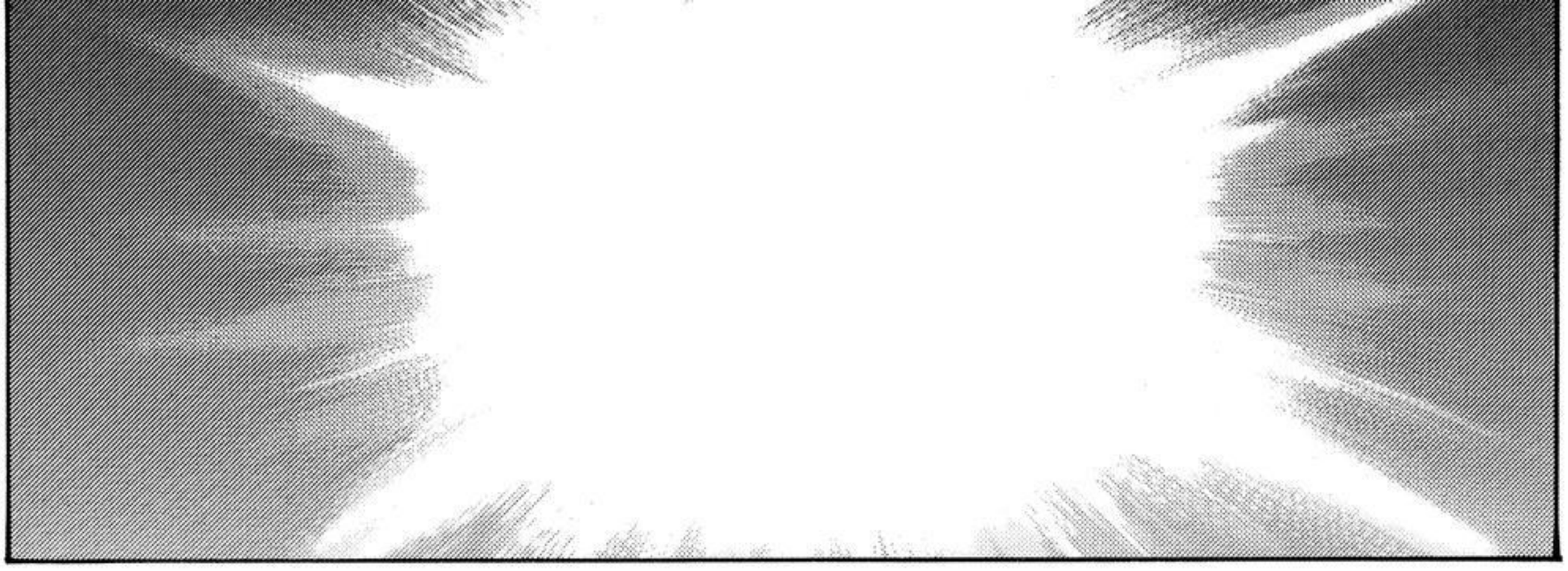






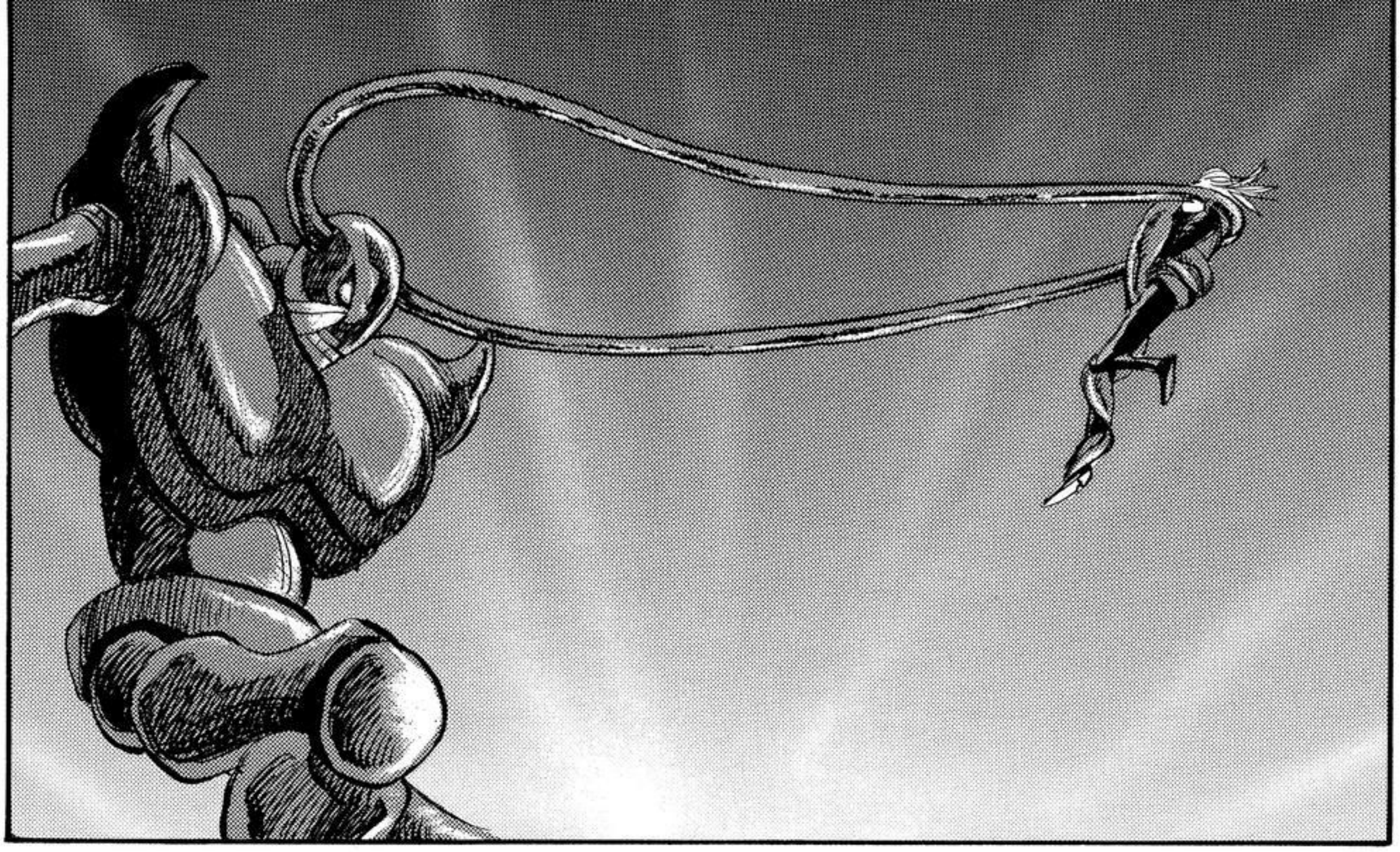
Act 54

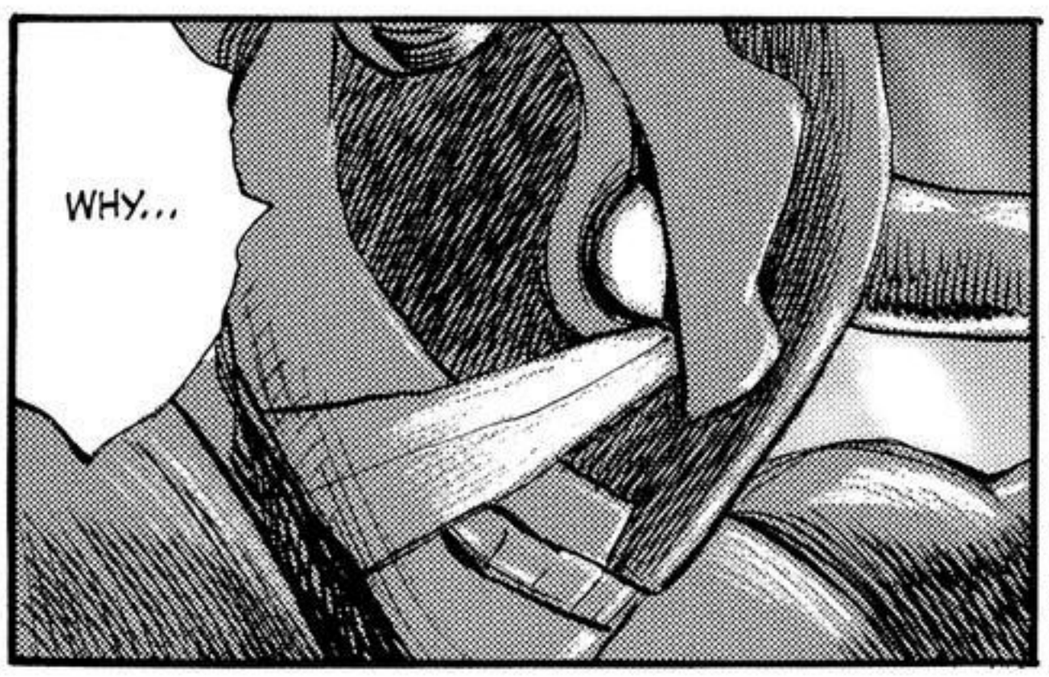
BURGEONING GRIEF

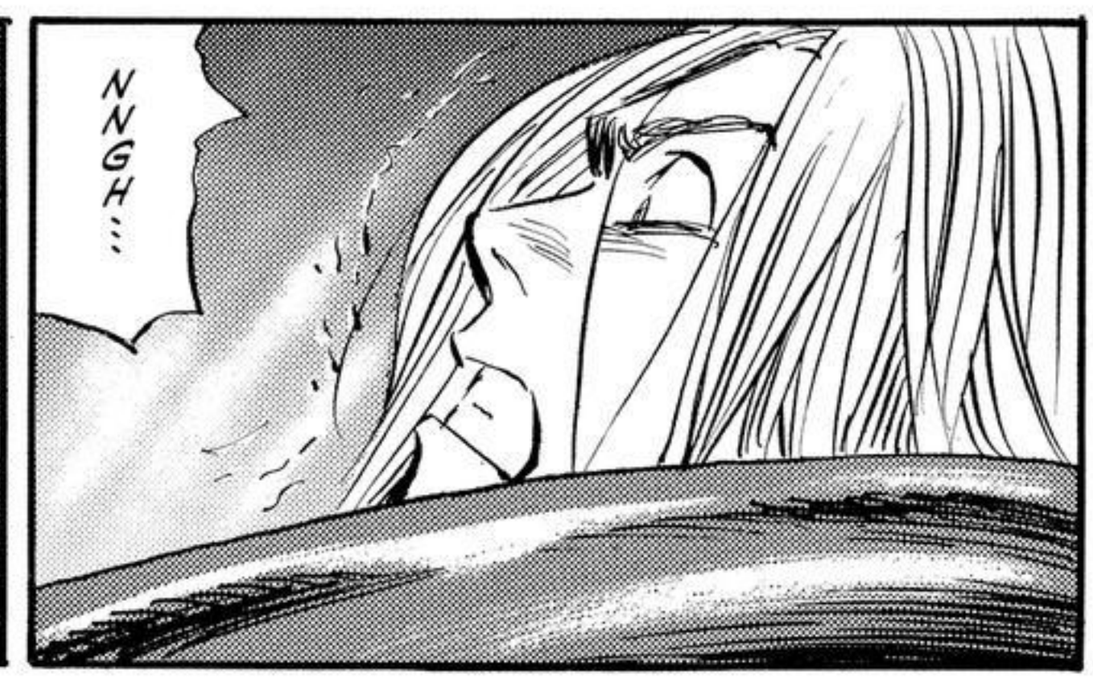


FINISH HIM OFF, PLUTO! *NOW!*

YOU *WIN*, EPSILON !!
SUNRISE!!




WHY...

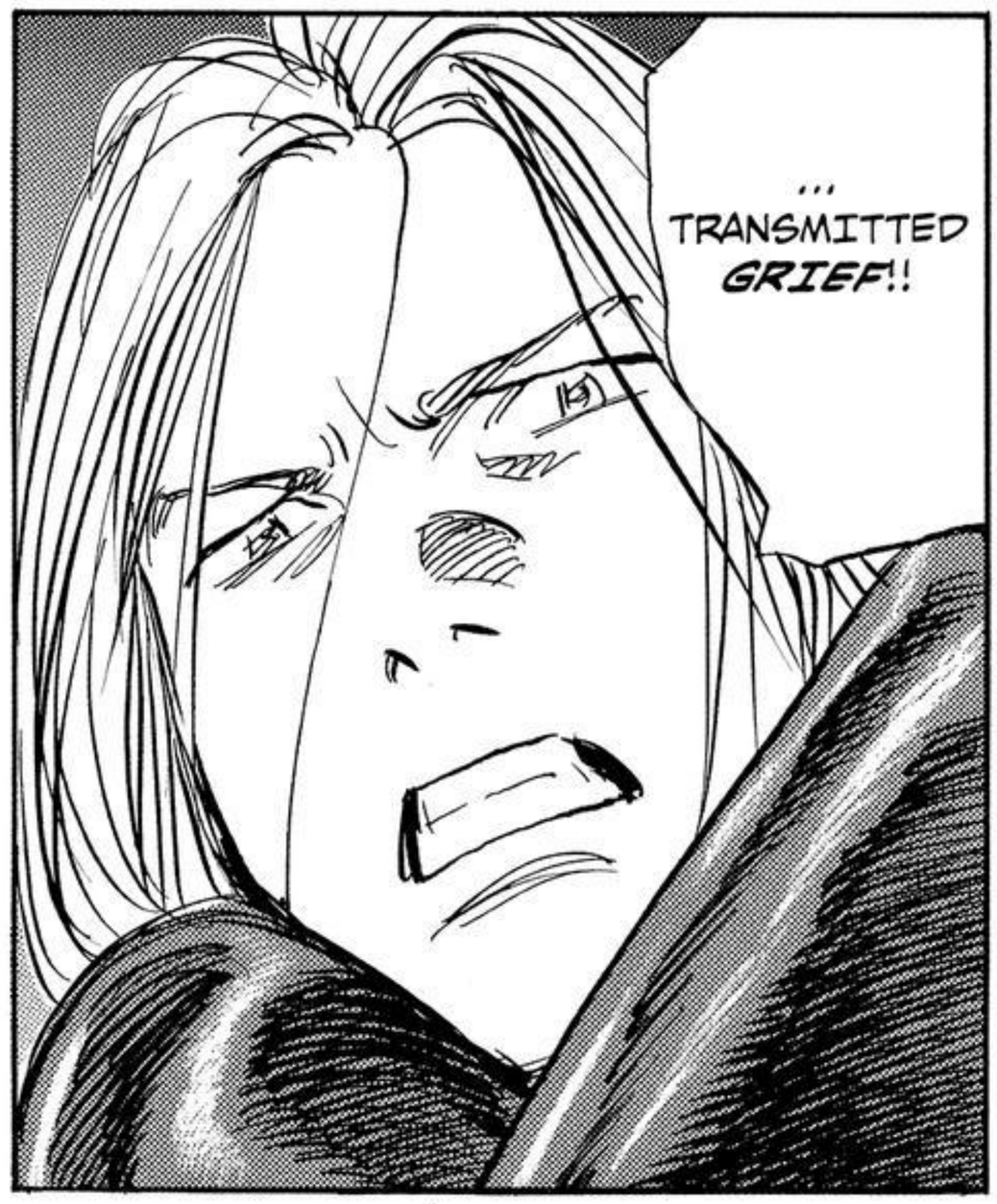

NNGH...

WHY DIDN'T YOU KILL ME?

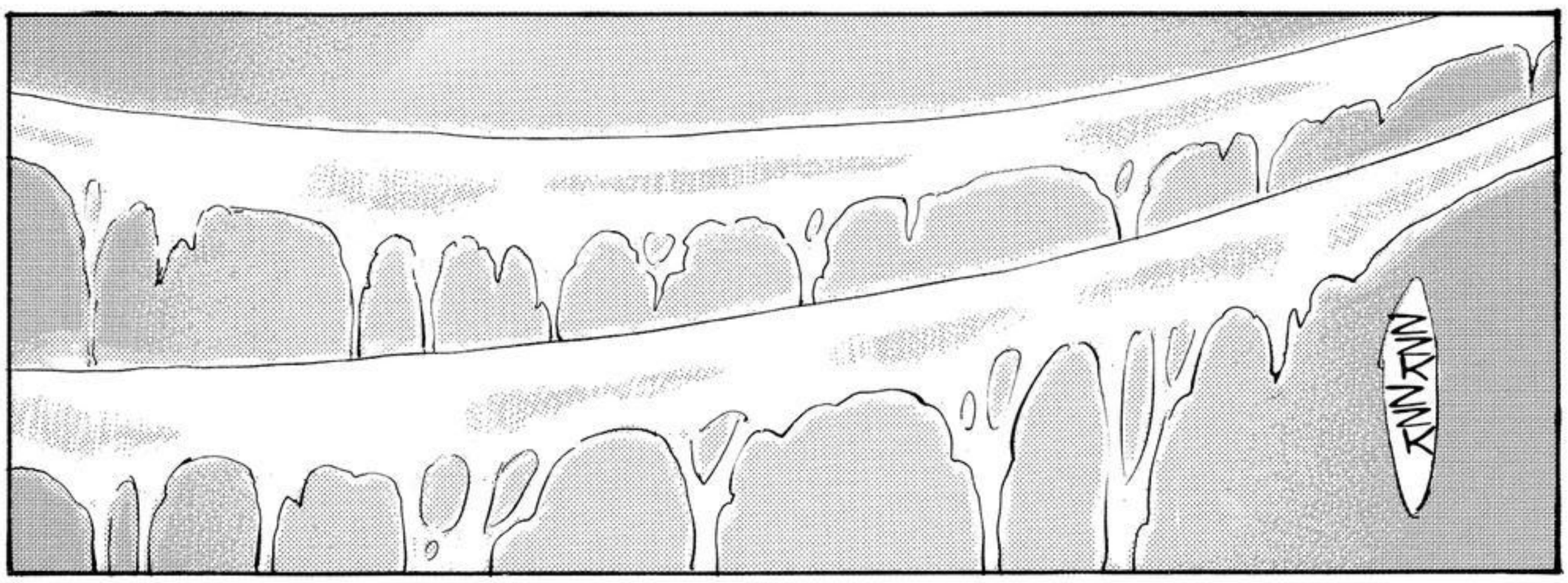
WHY DIDN'T YOU FINISH ME OFF THAT OTHER TIME?

YOUR WAVELENGTH ...
B... BECAUSE ...

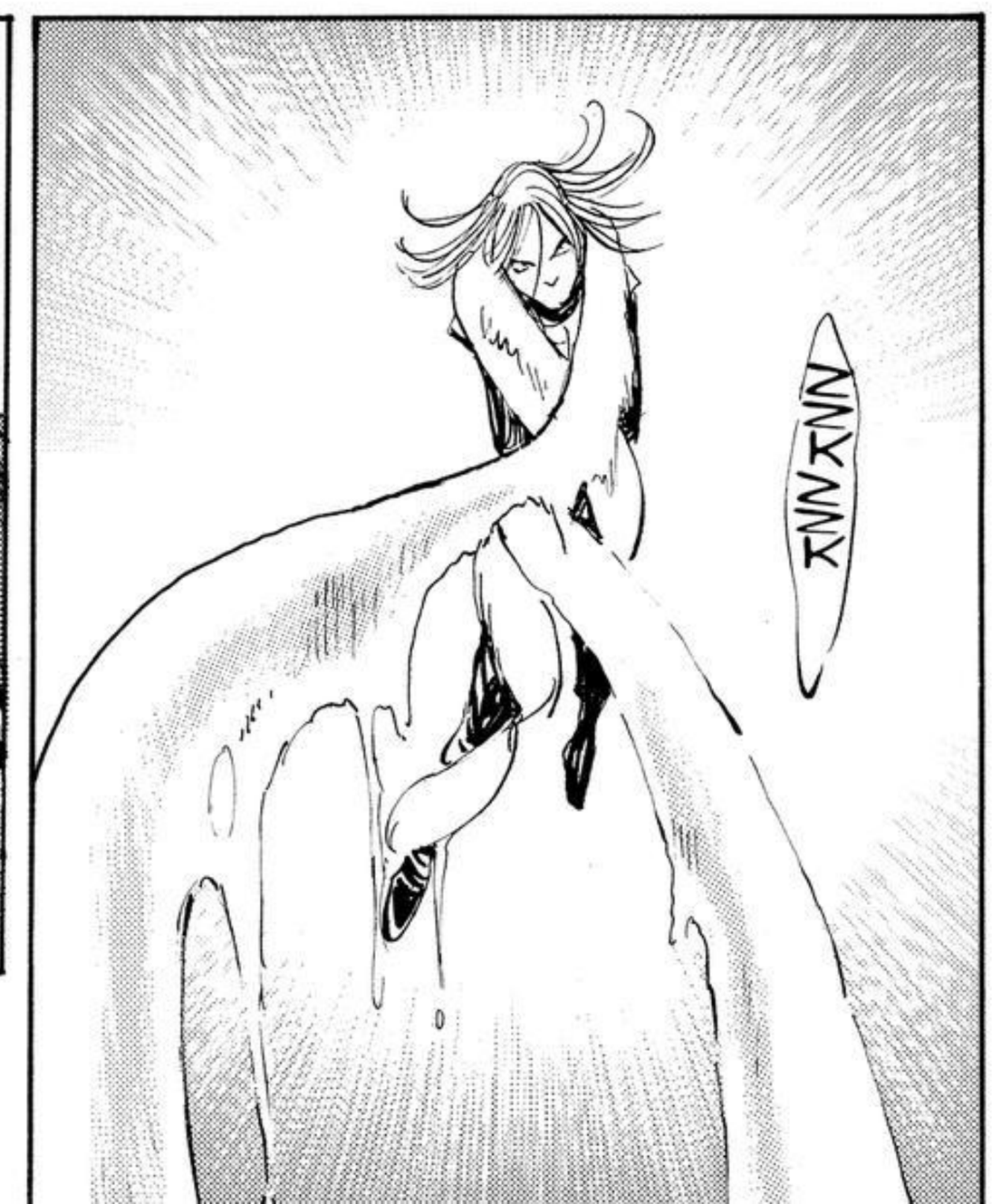
THEN...
YOU MUST KILL ME... NOW!!

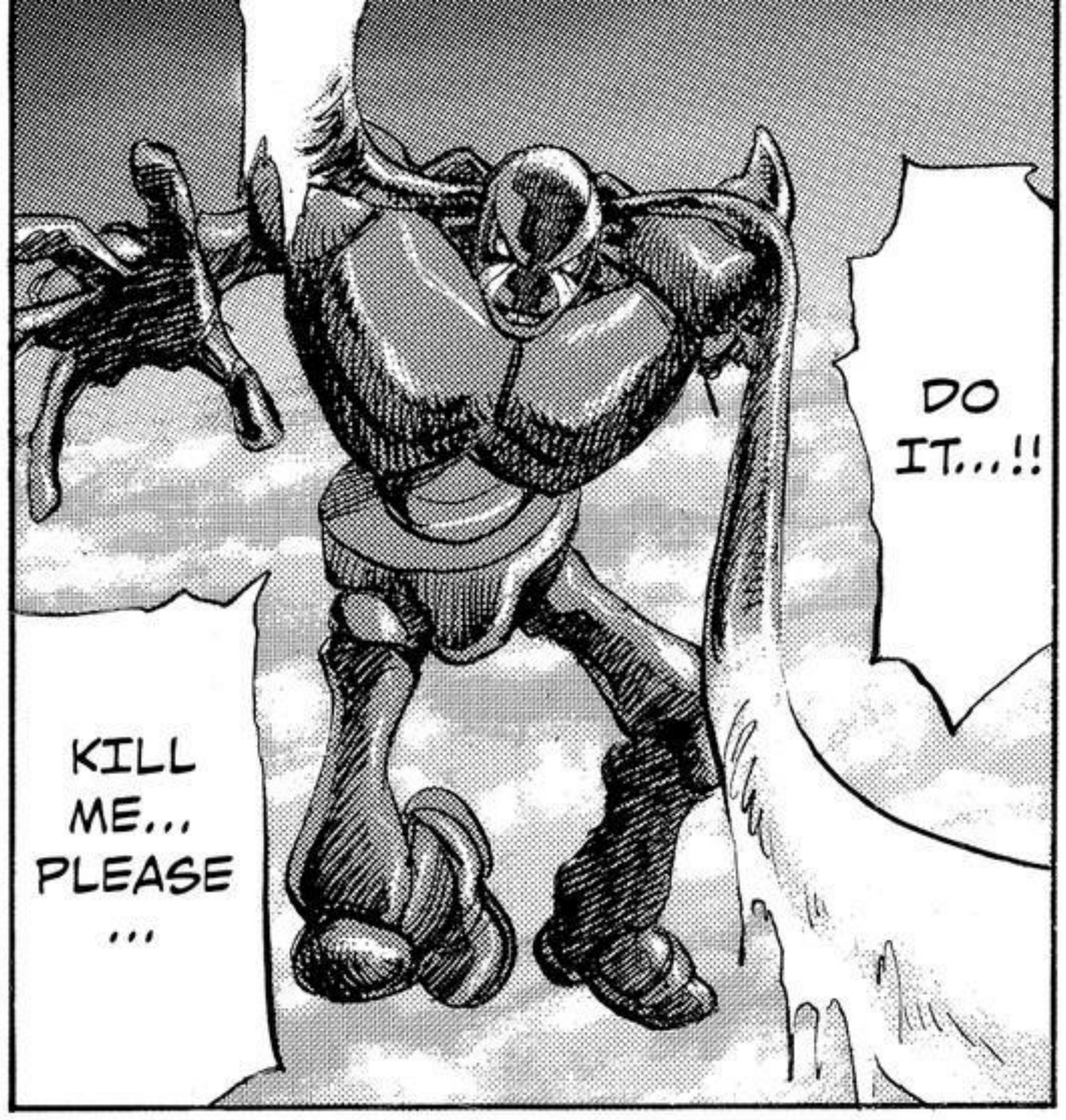

... TRANSMITTED GRIEF!!

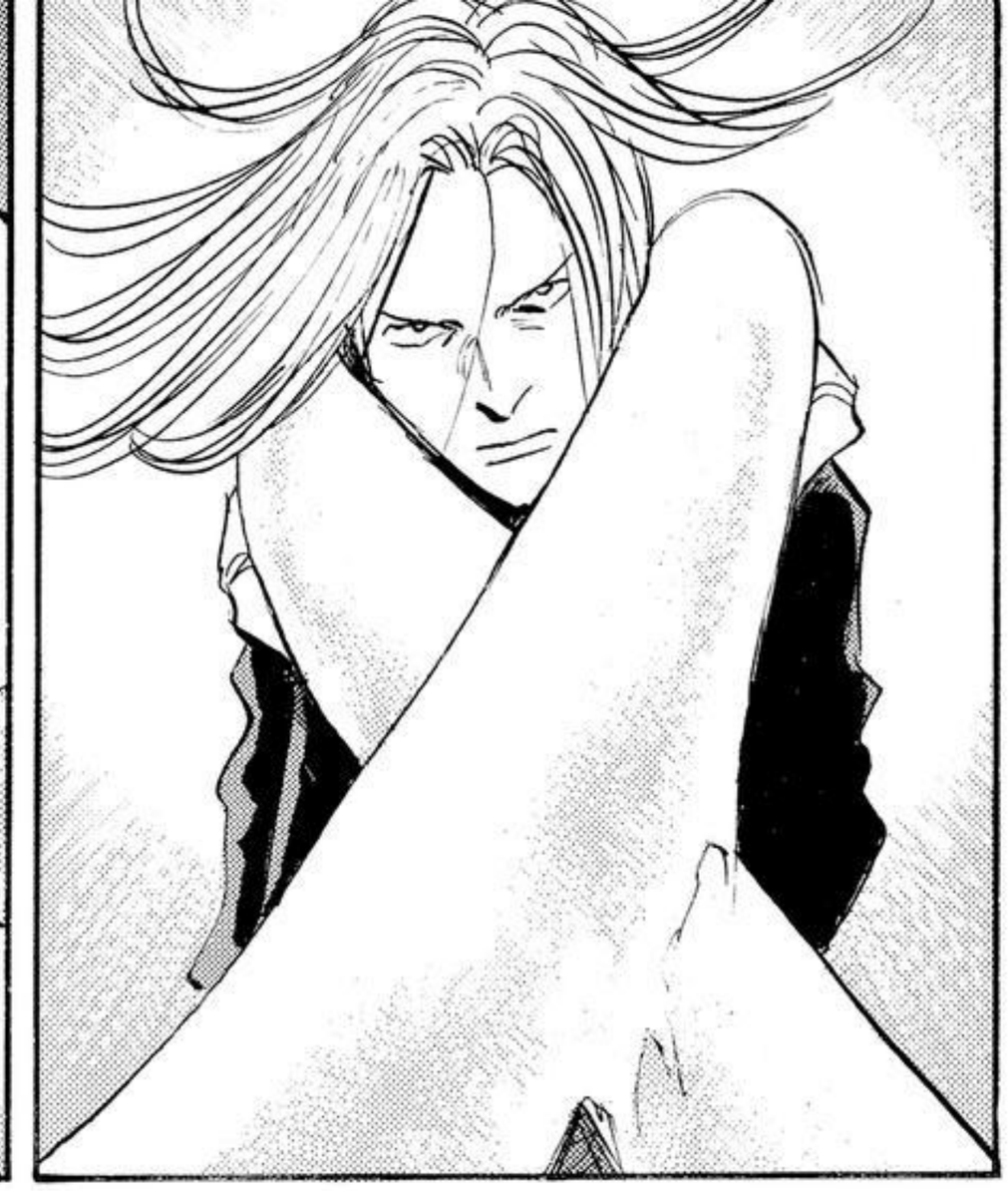
GRRR

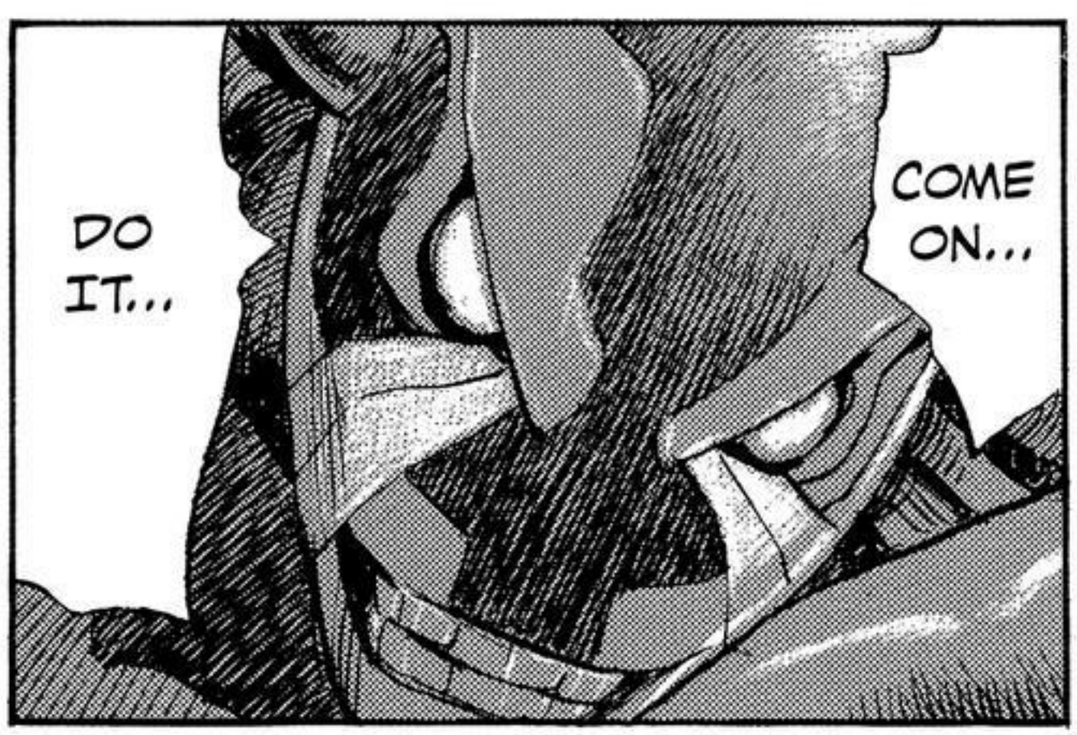

KNNNN

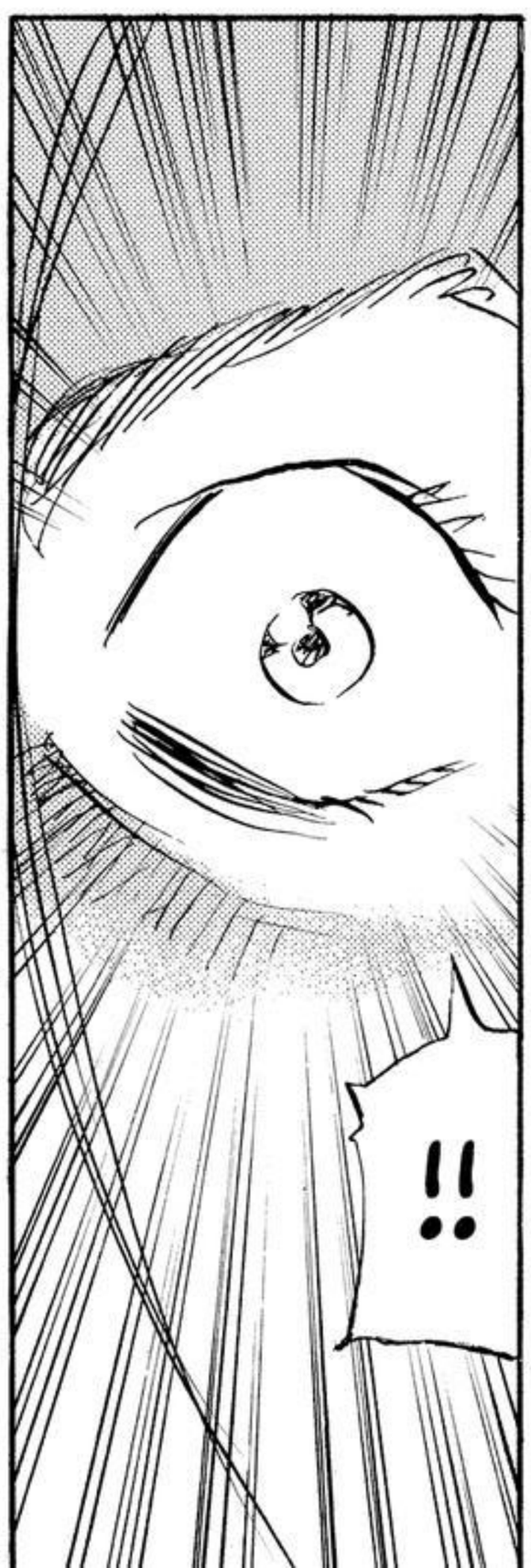
USE YOUR PHOTON ENERGY AND VAPORIZE ME.
THAT'S IT...


KNNNN

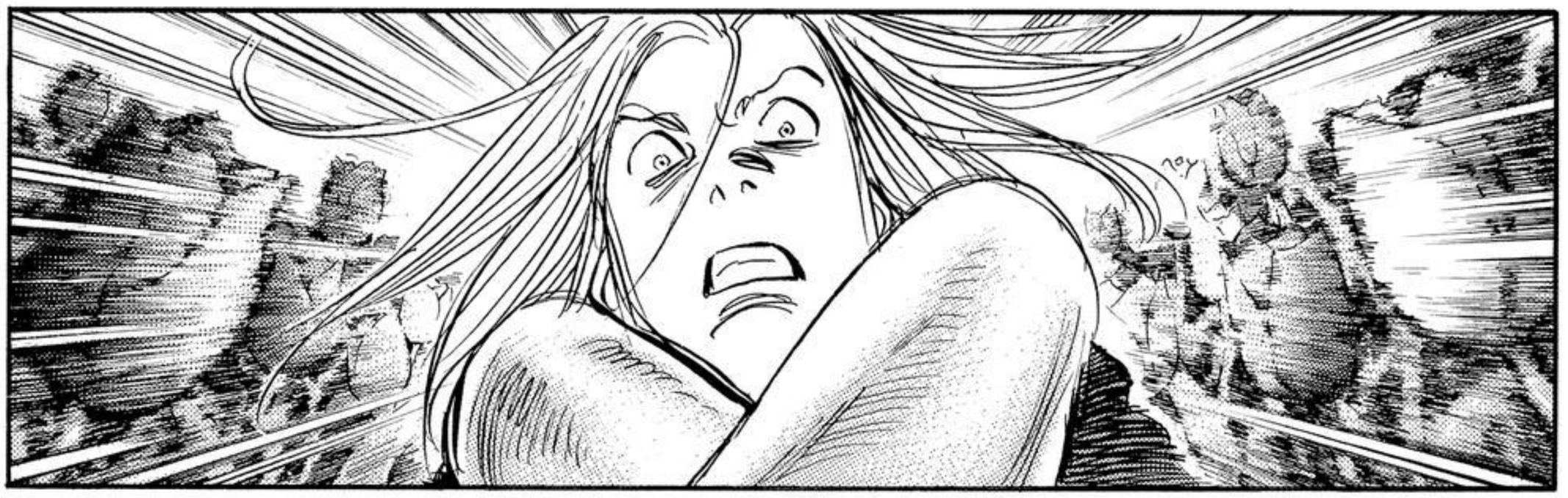

DO IT...!!
KILL ME... PLEASE ...



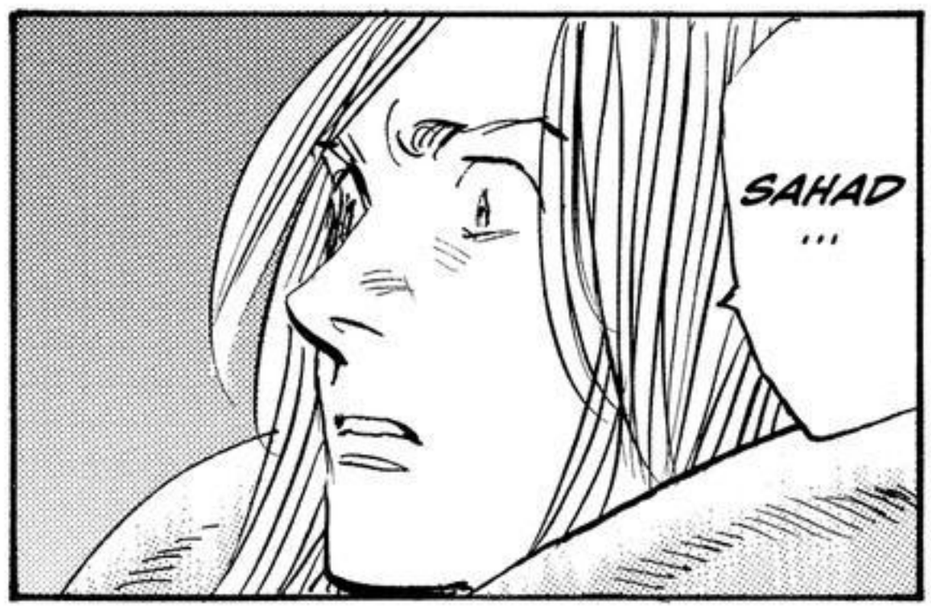

COME ON...
DO IT...

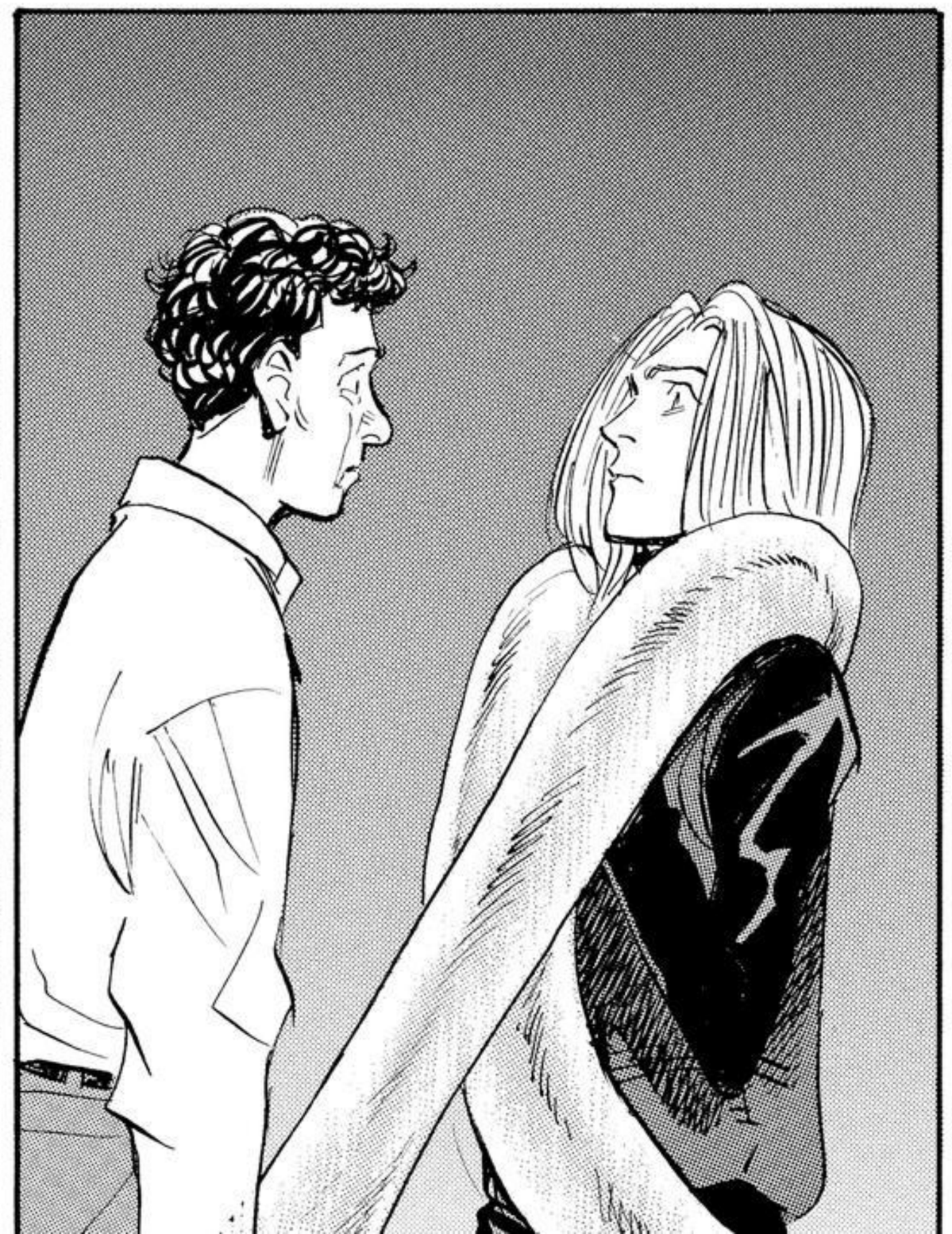

!!

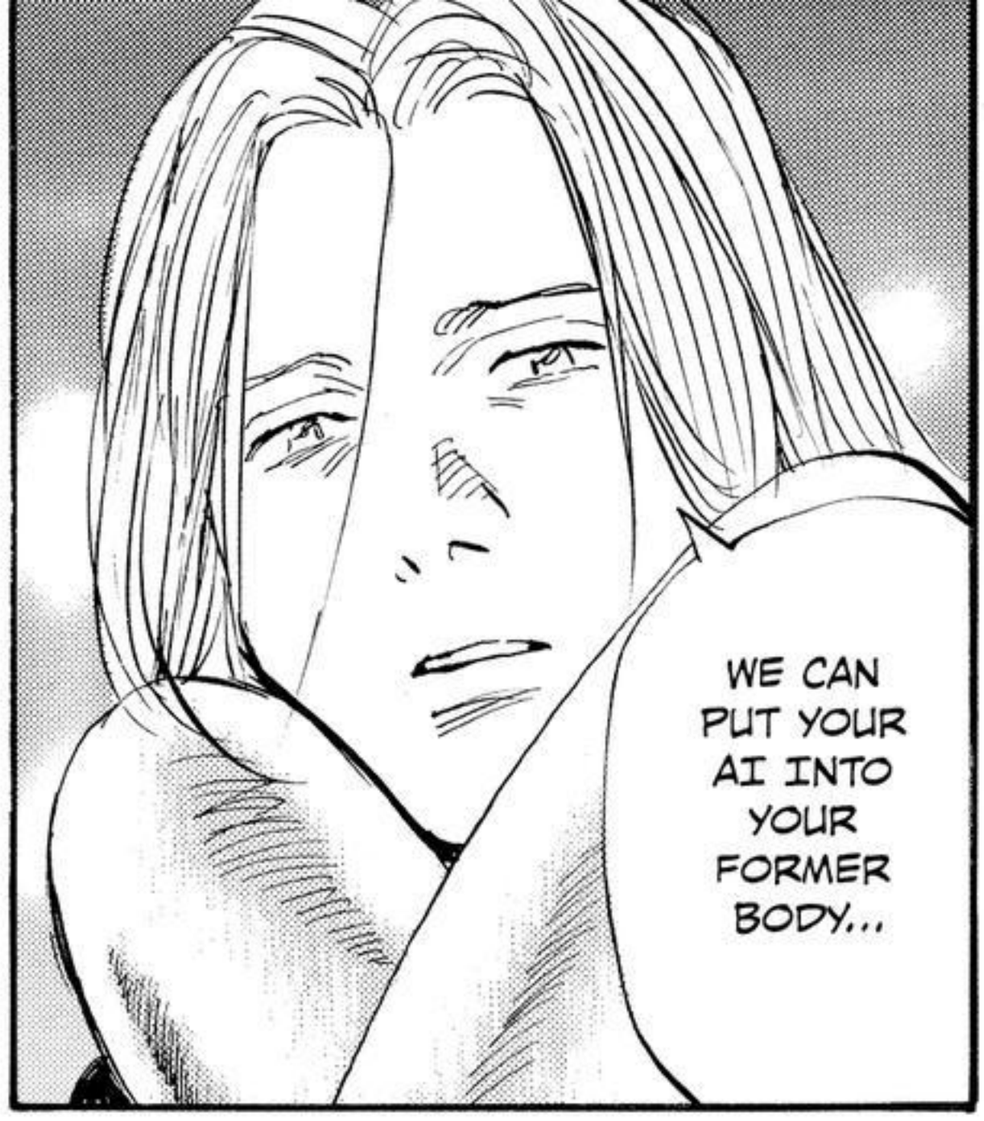
DO IT!

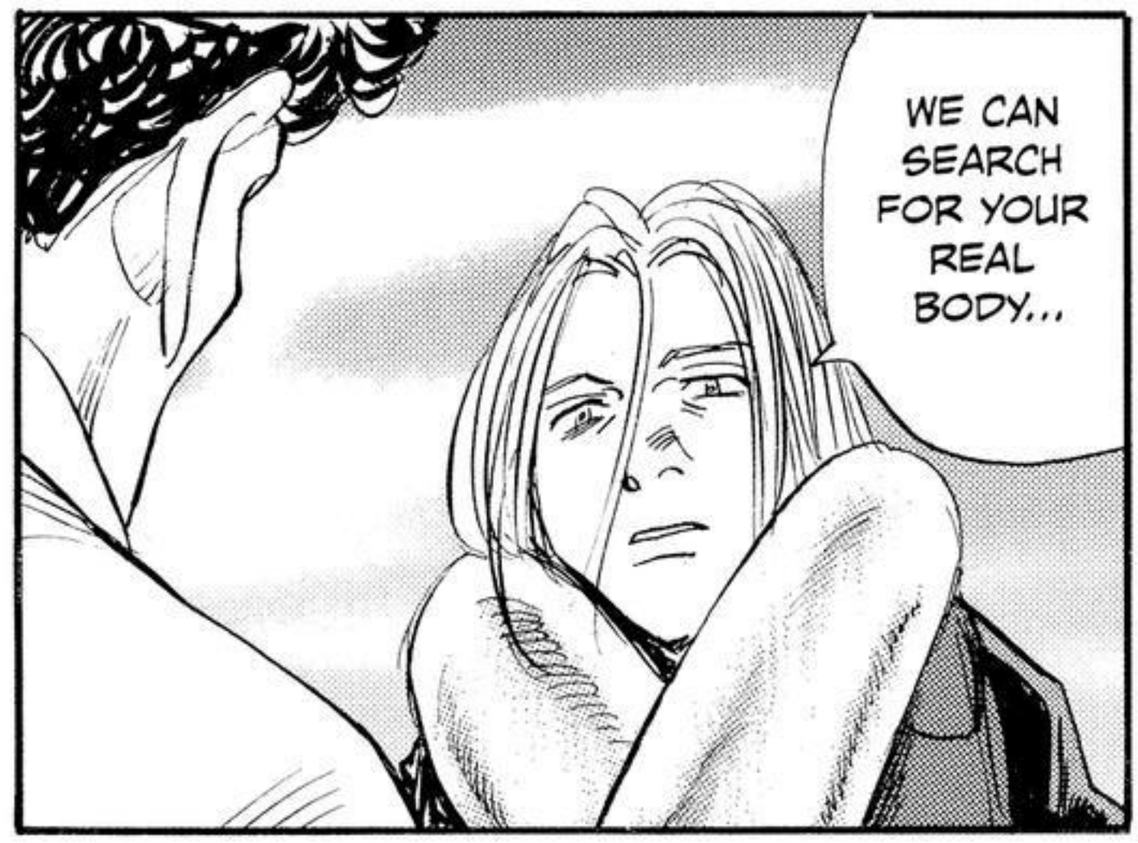


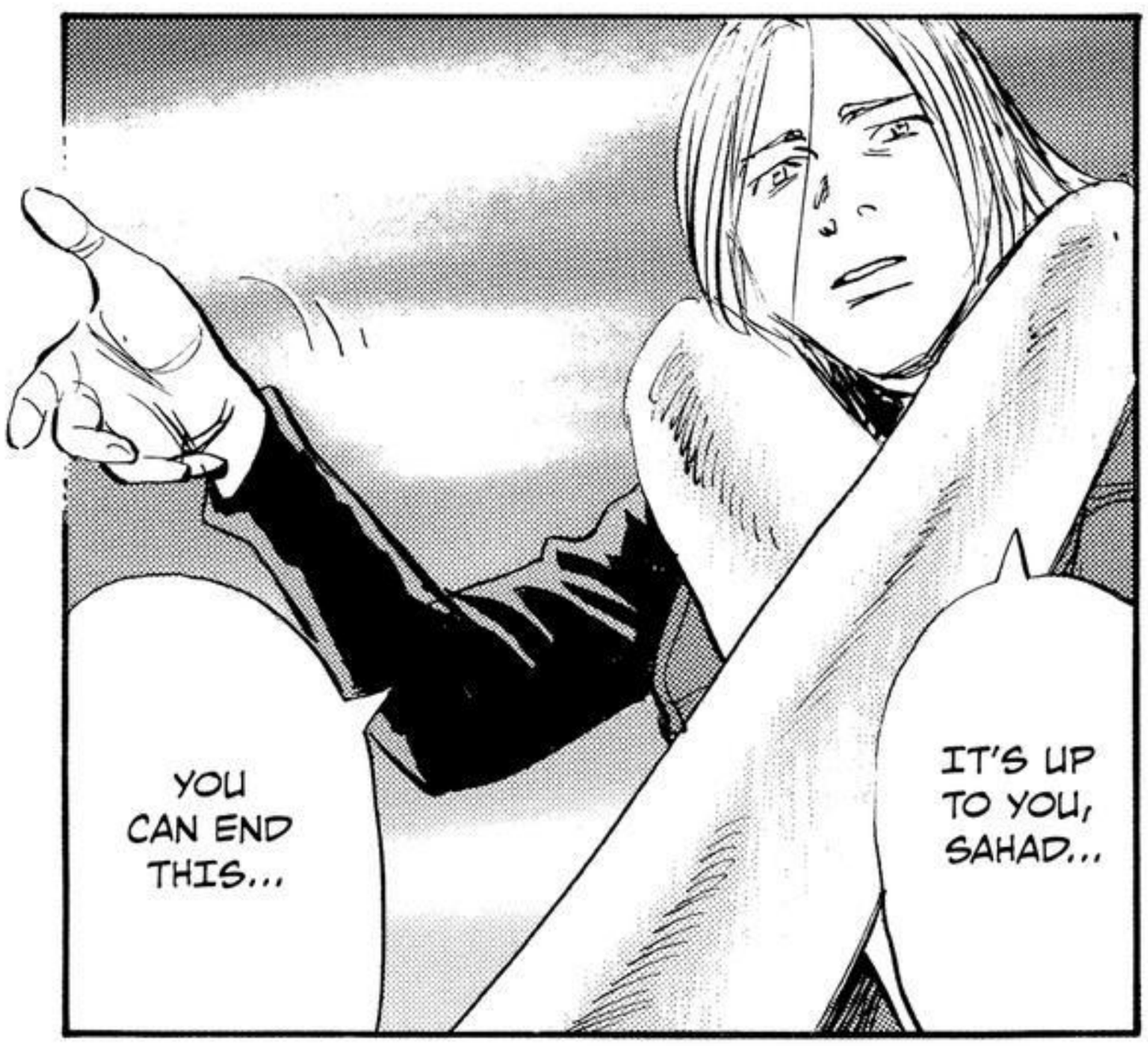
Y...
YOU'RE...


SAHAD
...




WE CAN PUT YOUR AI INTO YOUR FORMER BODY...


WE CAN SEARCH FOR YOUR REAL BODY...


YOU CAN END THIS...
IT'S UP TO YOU, SAHAD...

LET'S STOP THIS.

NO. I CAN'T.

HE IS COMING...

WHO'S COMING?

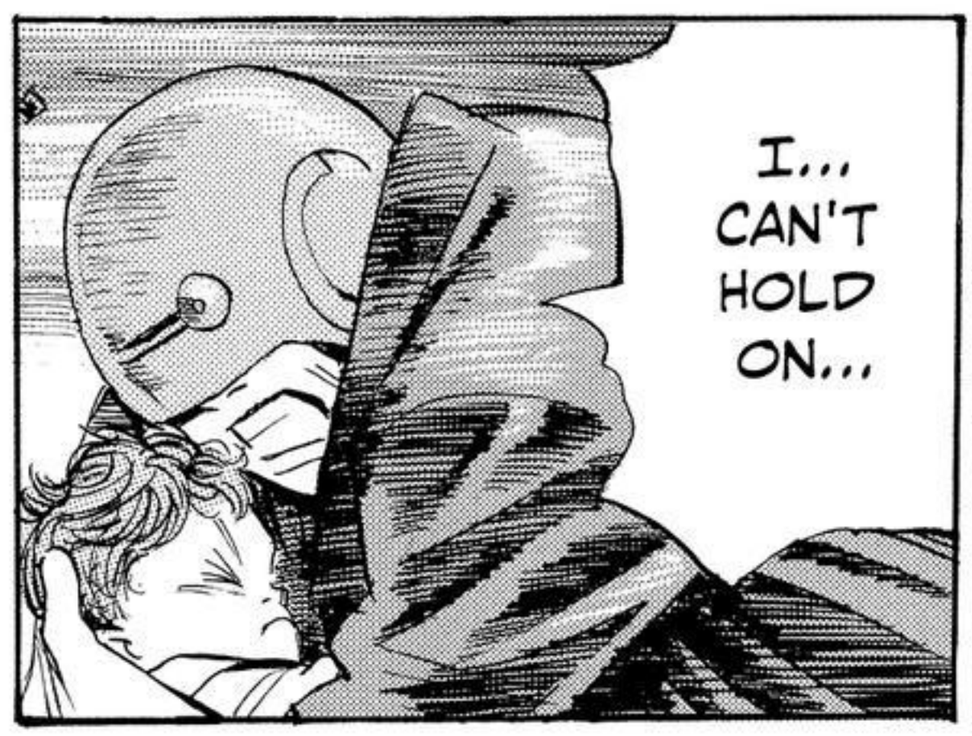
IT SHOULD HAVE ALREADY RISEN...

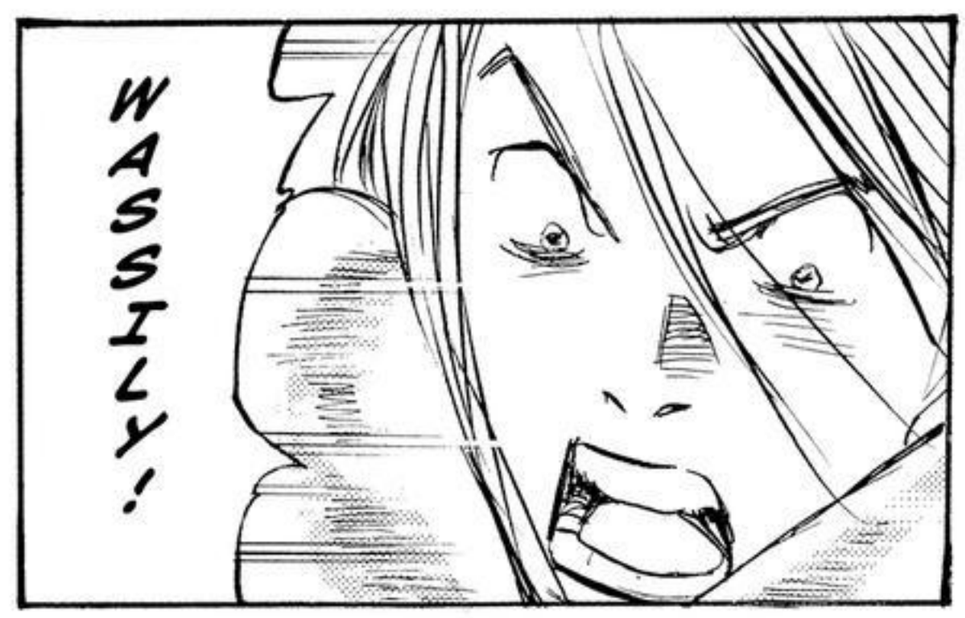
THE SUN...

...BUT IT'S DISAP-PEARED ...
ROAR
BO...
BORAAAA!!!
HOOM

WASSILY!!

WHAT'S HAPPENING?!
GROAAAAP
IT'S NO USE!


I... CAN'T HOLD ON...


WASSILY!

USE MY ENERGY!!

ZWISH!
HERE!!
GROAR
NNGH!!
?

NNKNN

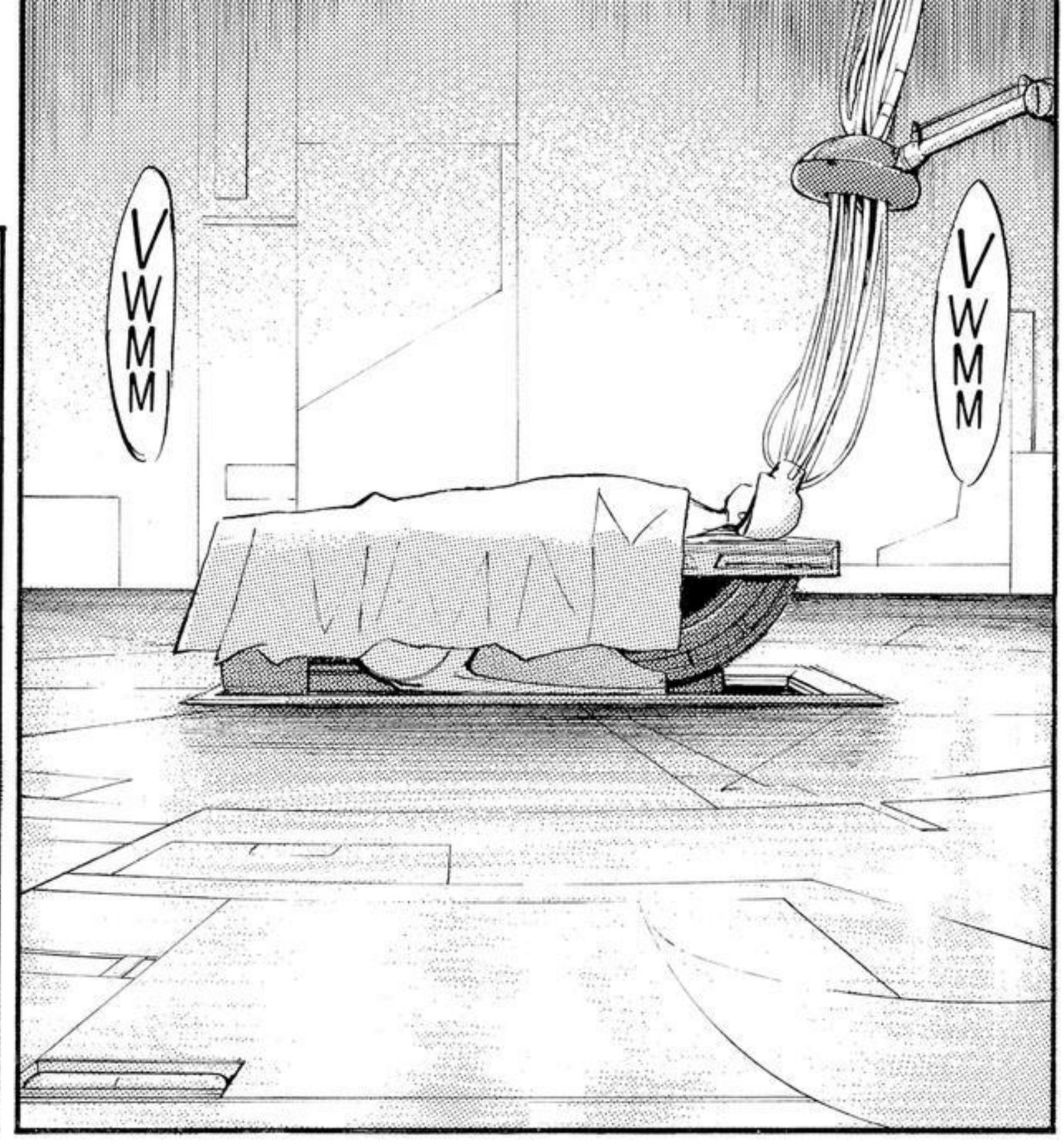
EPSILON
...

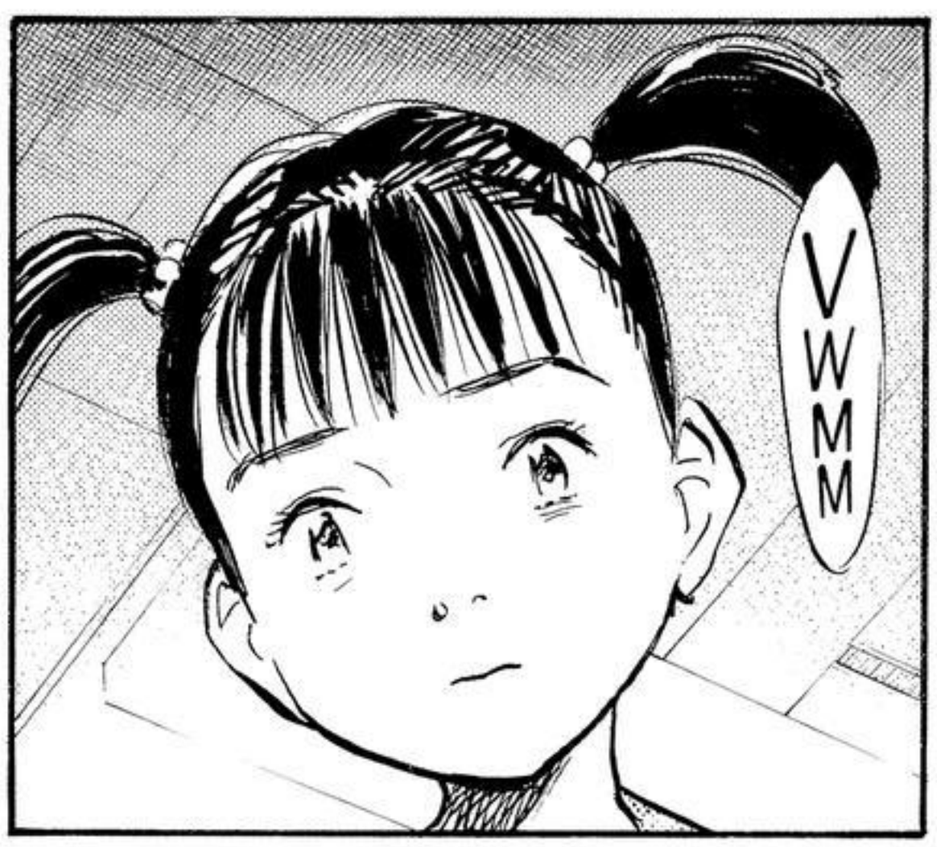
SHOOSH

KLAK

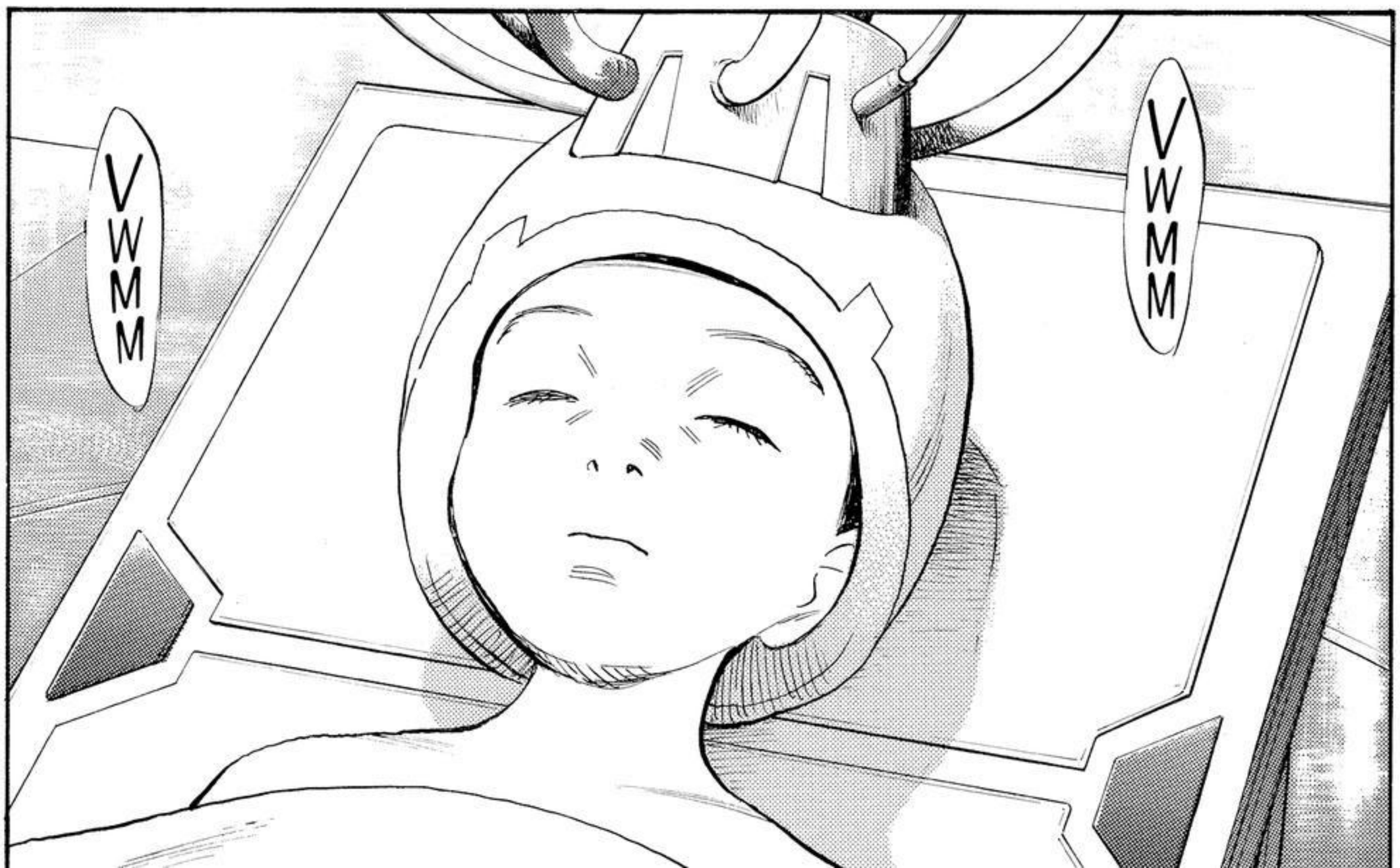
KLAK

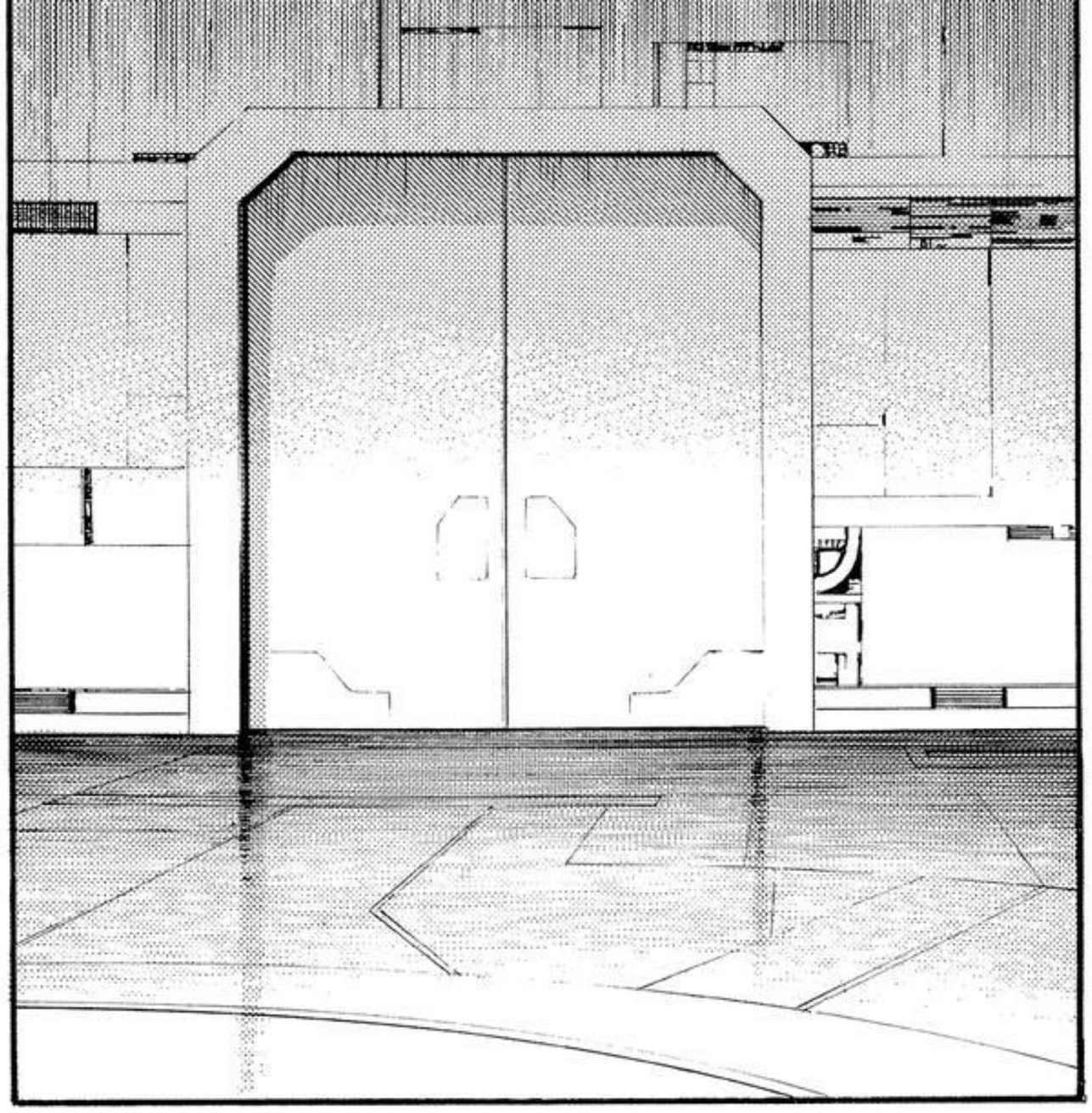
THAT'S YOUR BROTHER, URAN.


VWMM
VWMM


VWMM

VWMM


VWMM
VWMM

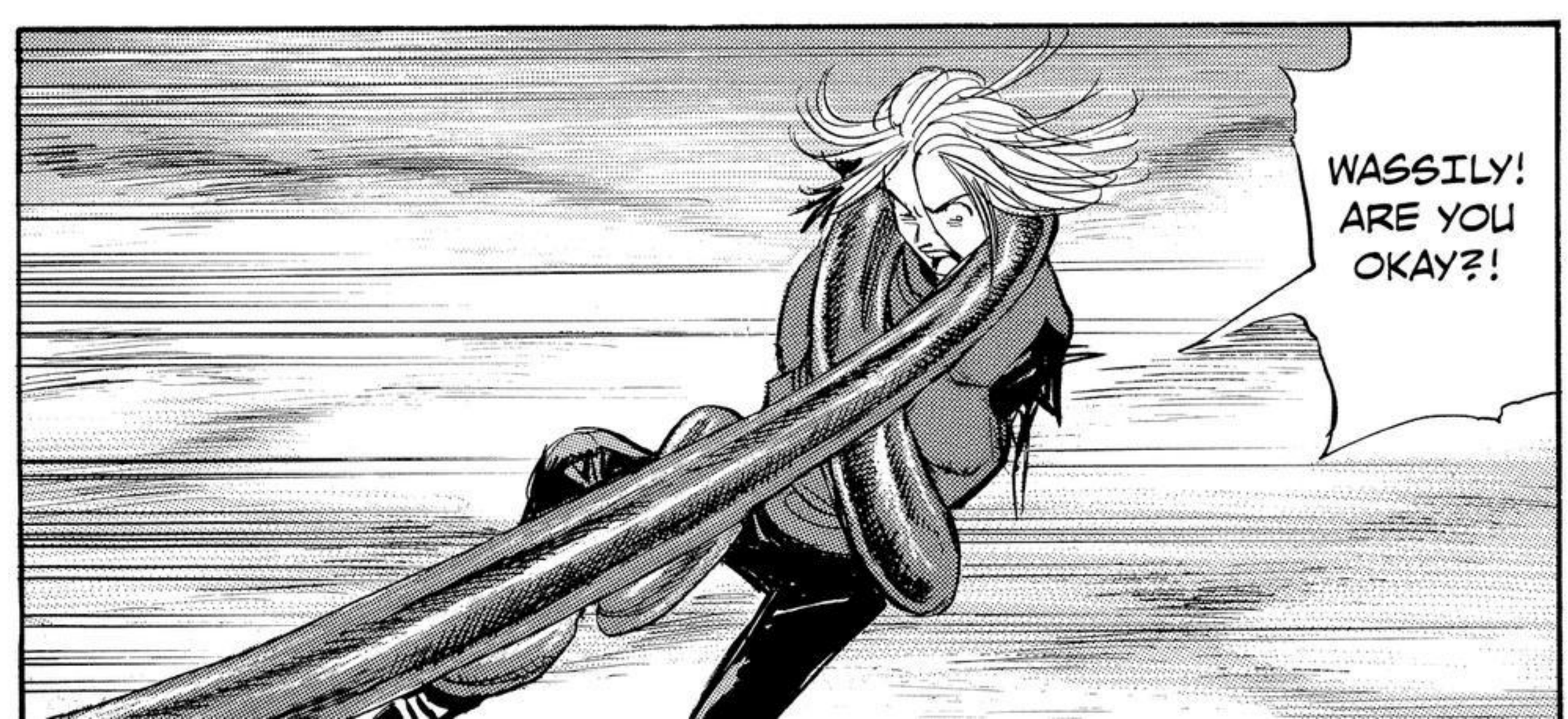


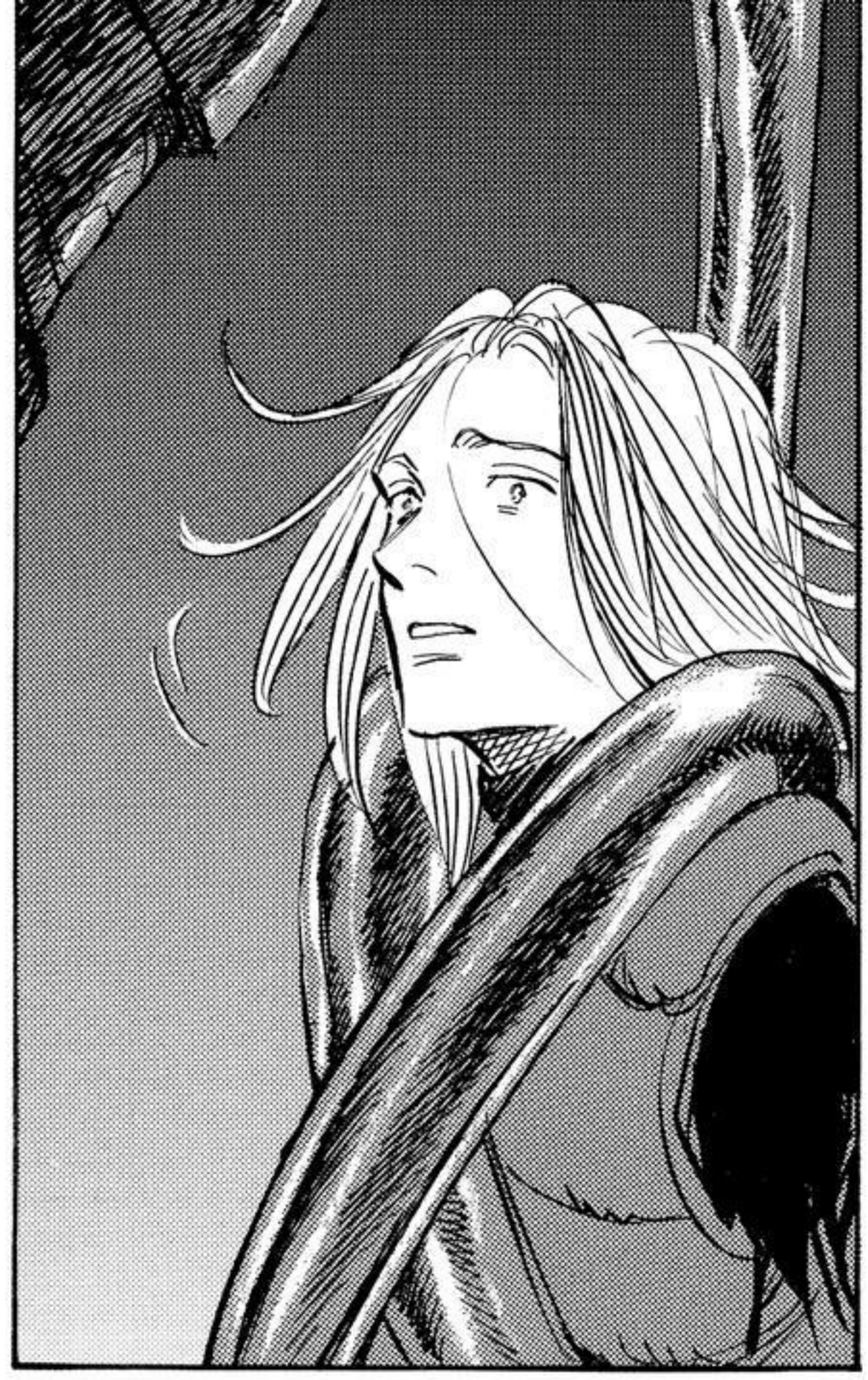
IS... IS HE DEAD...?

VWMM
VWMM

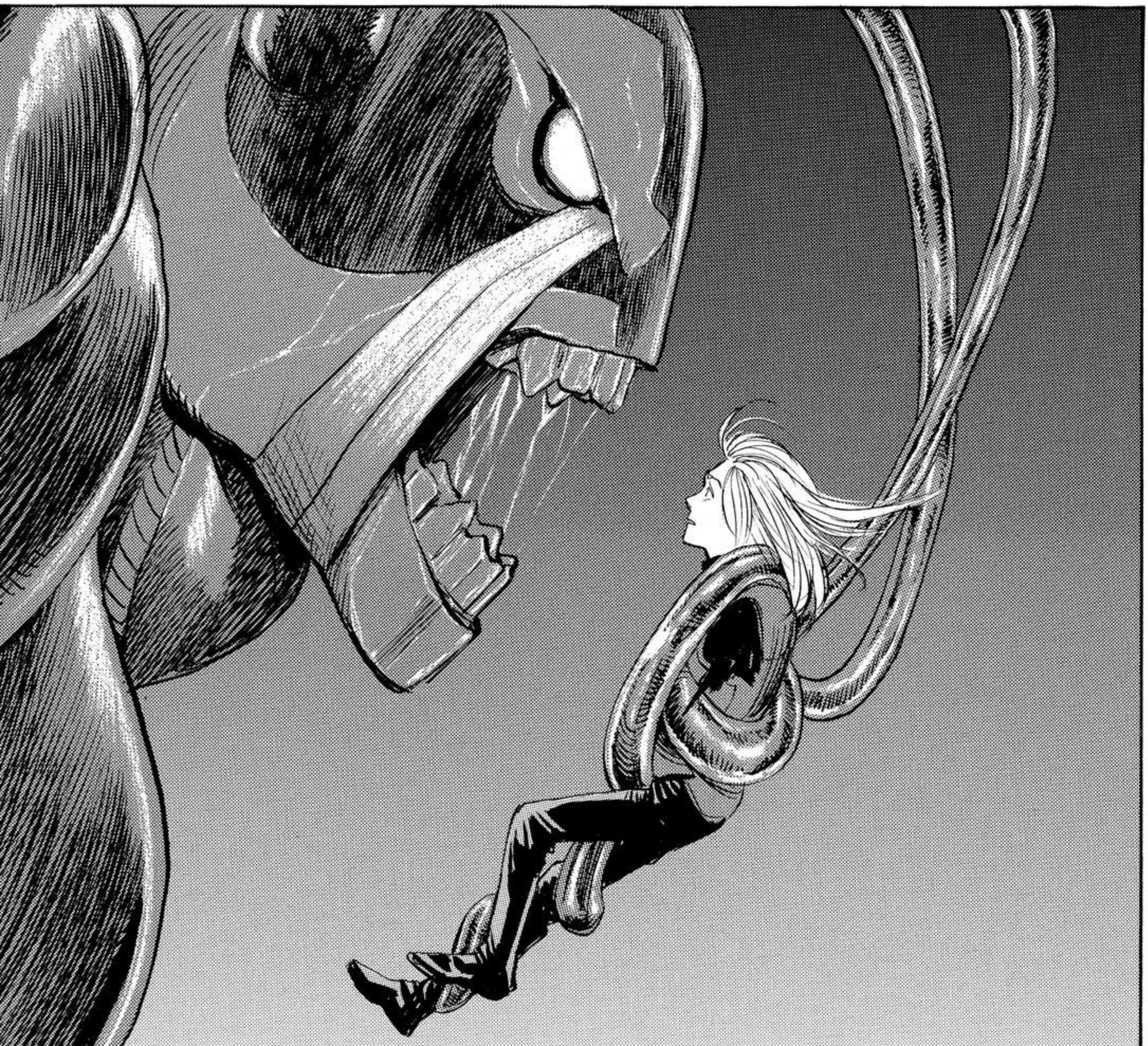
PROFESSOR TENMA...?

PROFESSOR ...?


WASSILY! ARE YOU OKAY?!

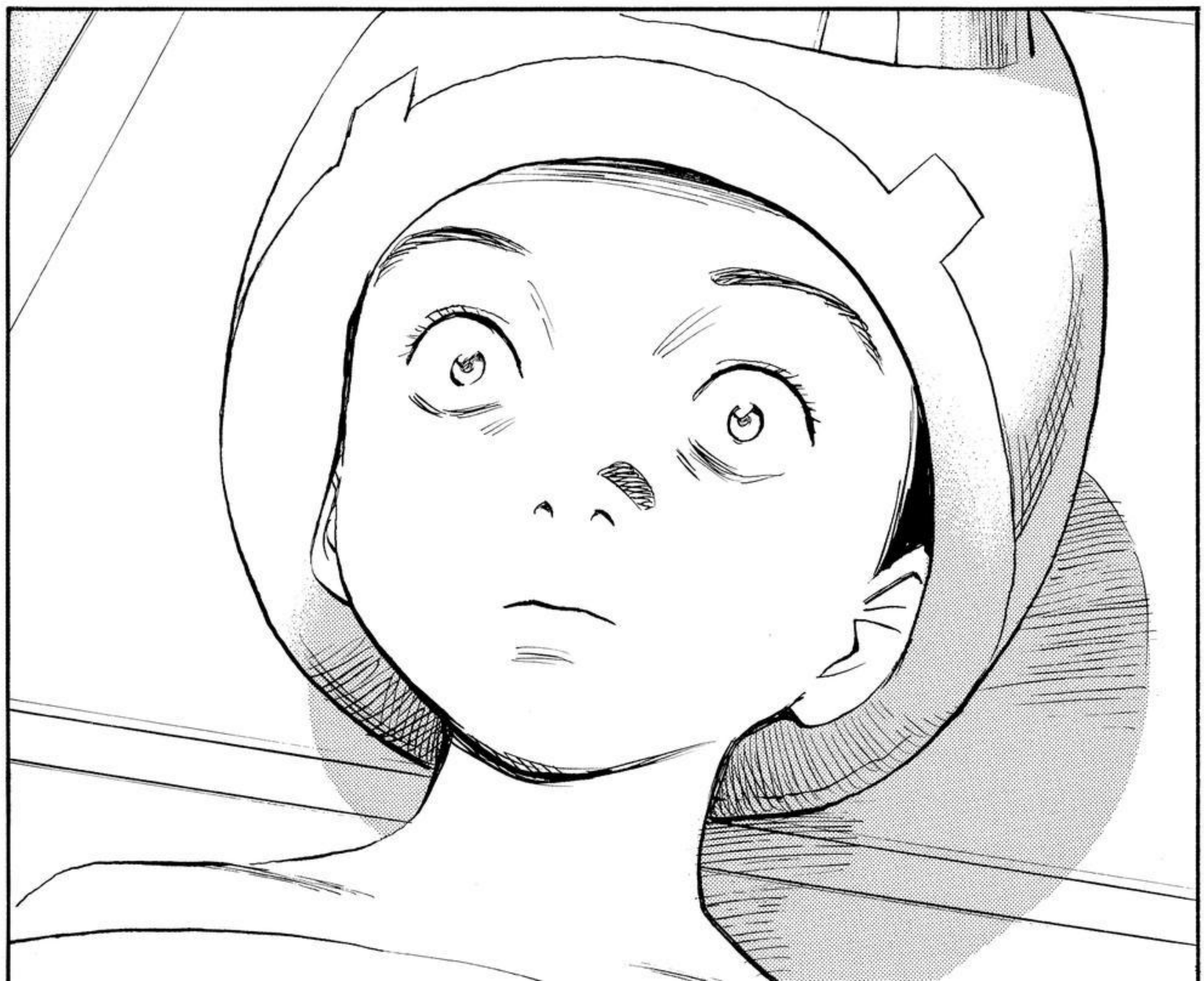


EPSILON'S HANDS ARE PROTECTING US!

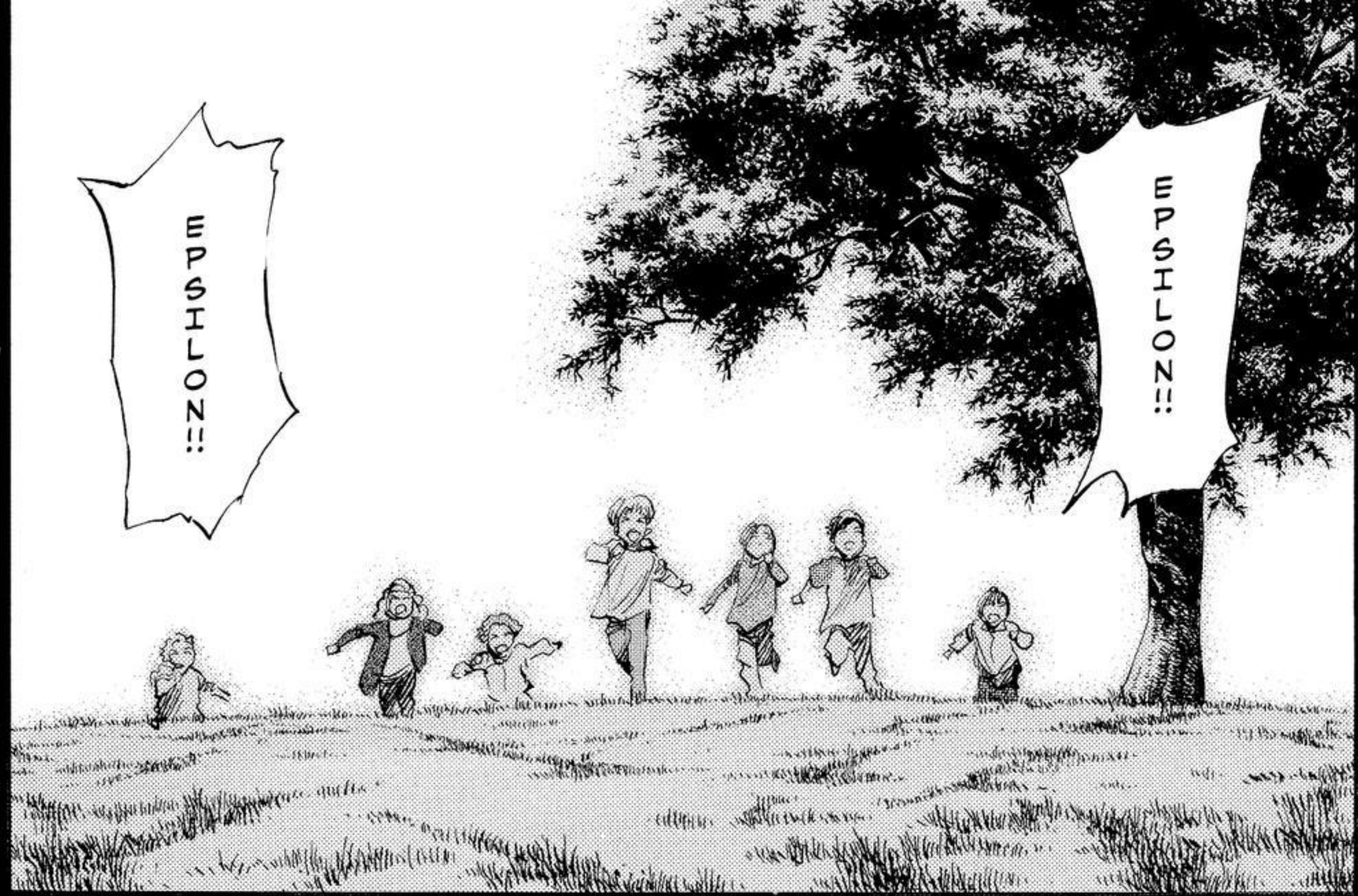


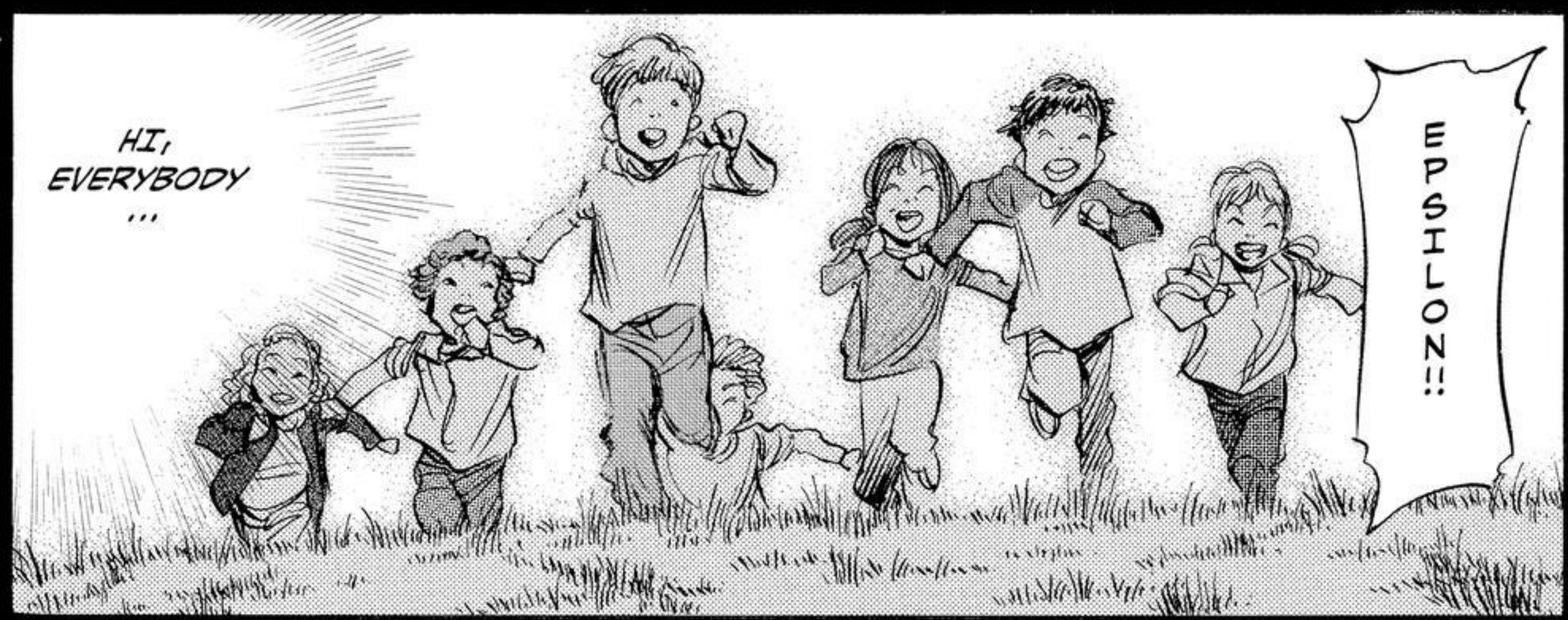
SHUNK

ATOM...



Act 55 THE GREAT AWAKENING





WHAT?!

EVERYBODY'S ...

I THOUGHT I COULD REALLY SEE THEM AND HUG THEM ALL AGAIN...

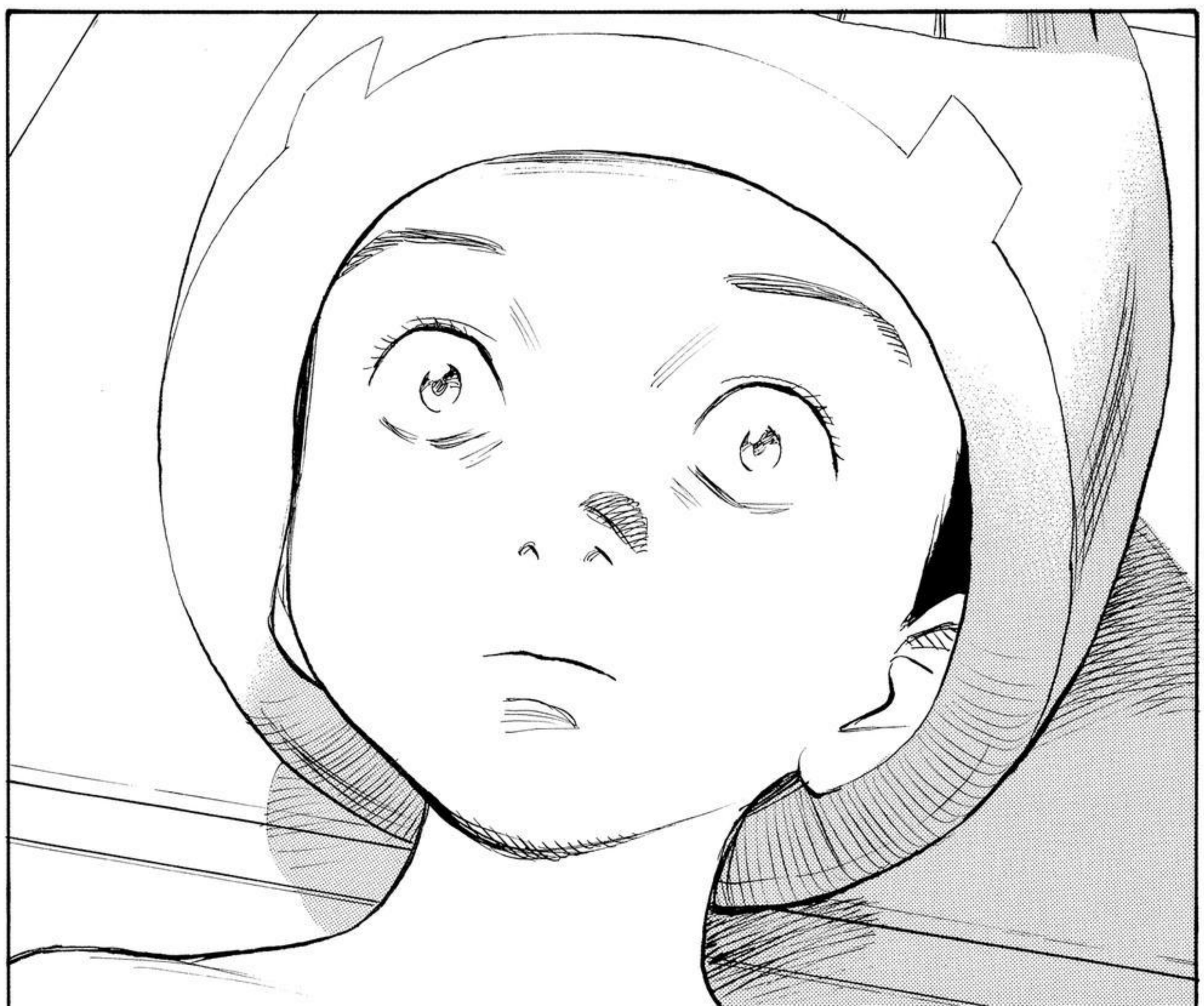
THEY'RE JUST AN IMAGE IN MY MEMORY...

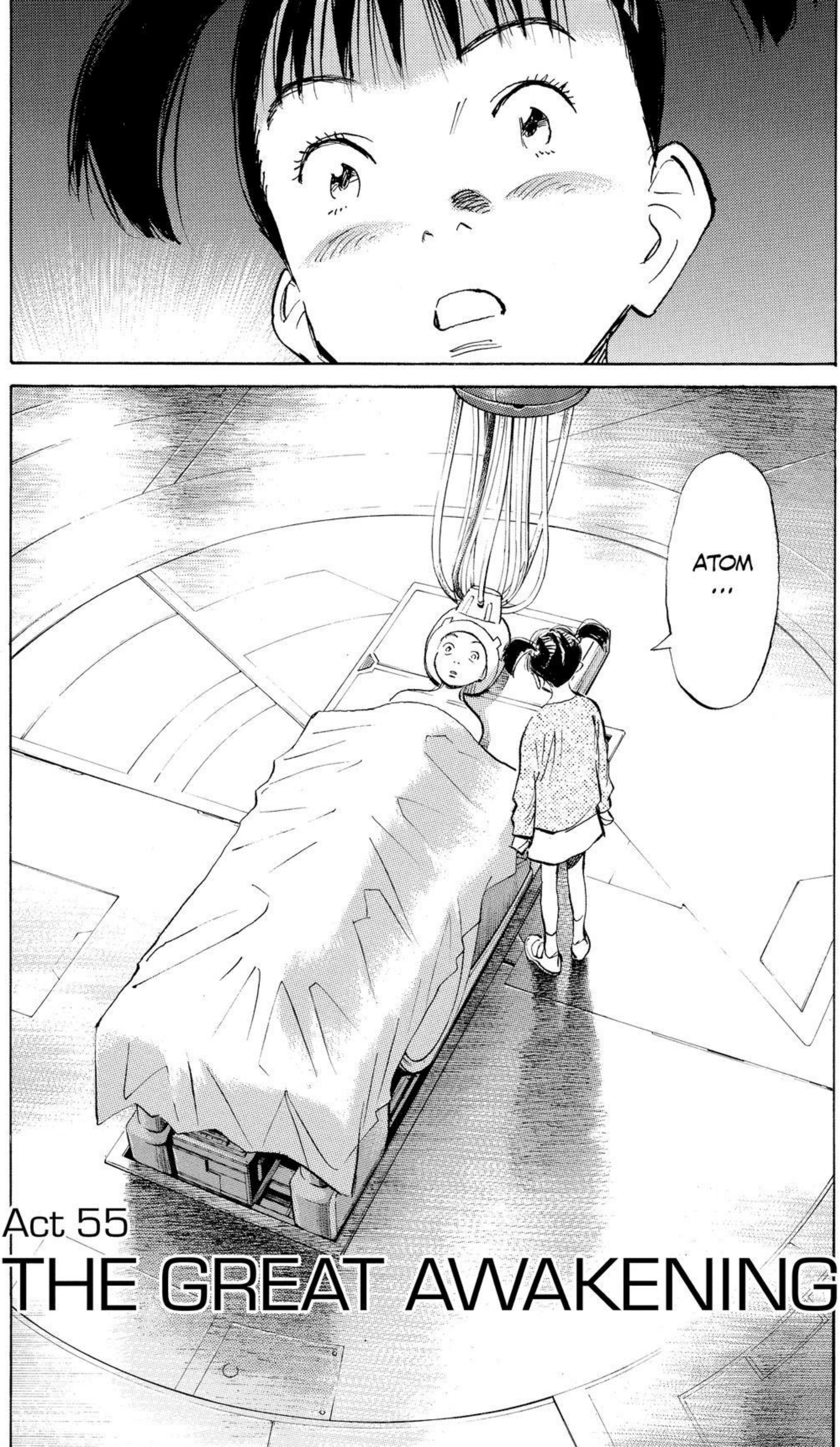
WHERE IS MY BODY...?

WAIT... WHERE ARE MY ARMS...?

TO HUG THEM ALL AGAIN...

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO ME...?





Act 55

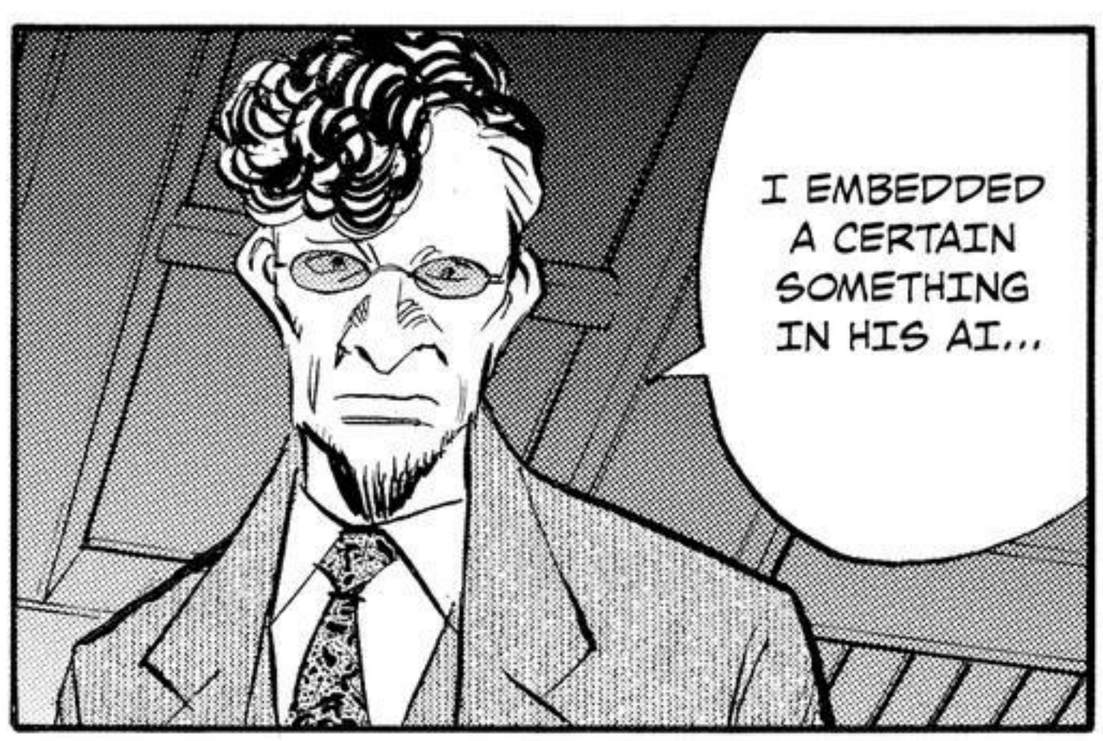
THE GREAT AWAKENING

IT'S ME! URAN!!
ATOM! DO... DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?!

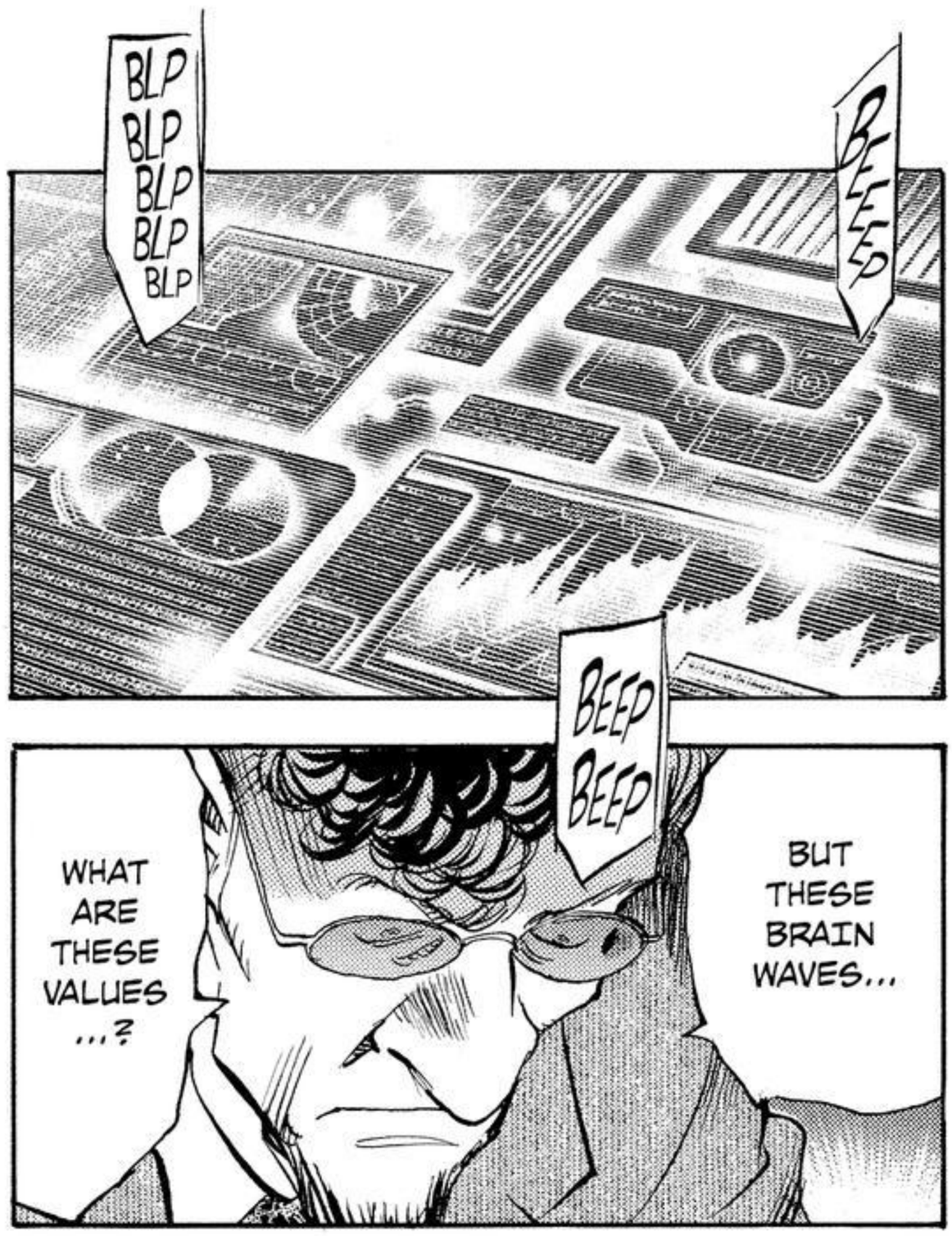
ATOM ...!!
YOU OPENED YOUR EYES...

PROFES-SOR TENMA!!

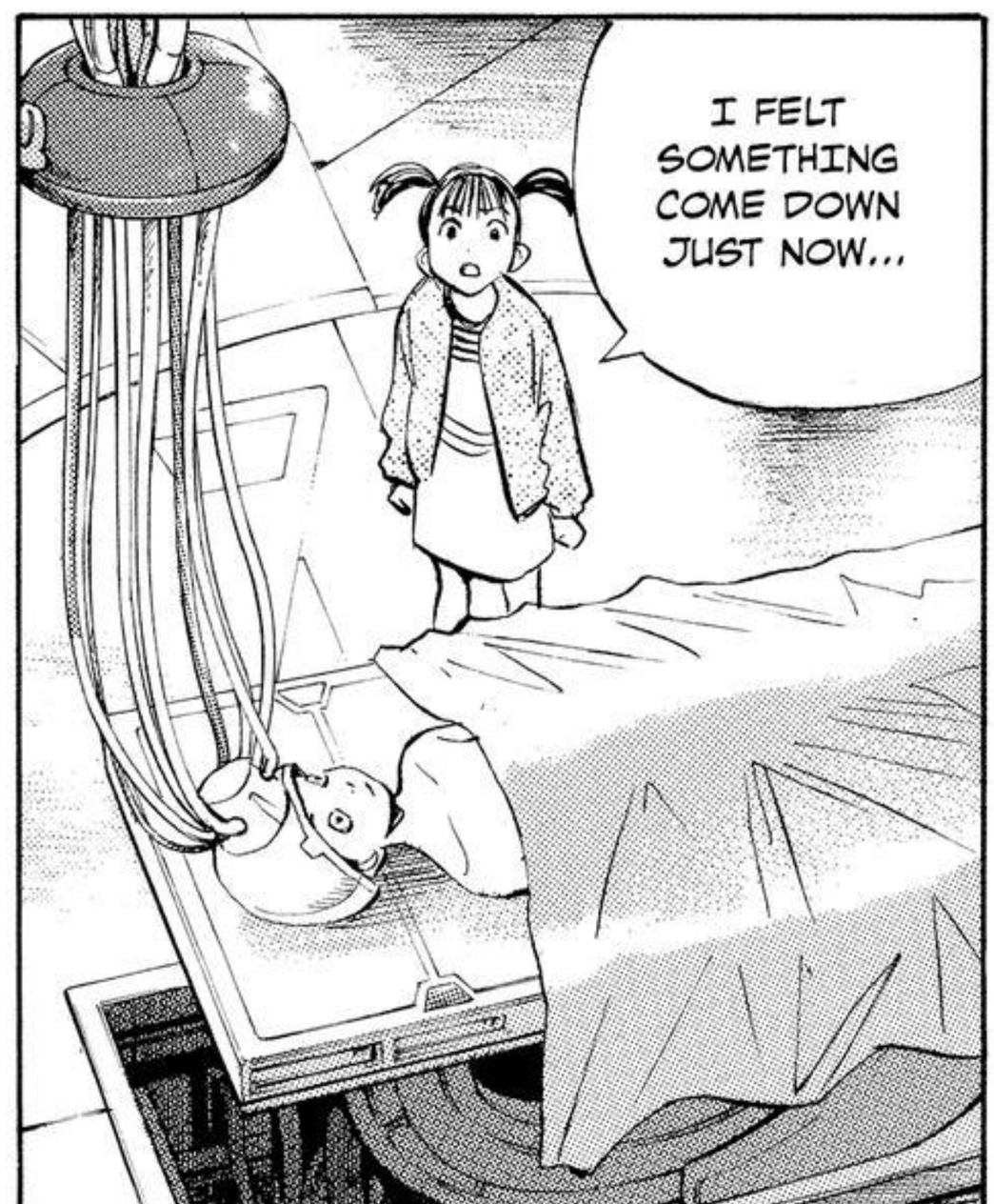
SO HE'S FINALLY AWAKENED...


I EMBEDDED A CERTAIN SOMETHING IN HIS AI...

AND NOW THAT PROGRAM HAS FINALLY FINISHED PROCESSING...
A BIASED EMOTION... A PROGRAM TO SIMPLIFY THE CHAOS IN HIS MIND...


BLP BLP BLP BLP BLP
BEEEP
BEEP BEEP
WHAT ARE THESE VALUES ...?
BUT THESE BRAIN WAVES...

BLIP BLIP BLIP BLIP
THE ONLY THING LEFT WAS TO WAIT FOR HIM TO AWAKEN...
BEEEP
AND NOW... SUDDENLY...


I FELT SOMETHING COME DOWN JUST NOW...

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
BLP BLP BEEP

YEAH... JUST BEFORE ATOM OPENED HIS EYES...
SOMETHING CAME DOWN...

WHAT?

SOMETHING REALLY, REALLY BIG...

AND WHAT WAS THAT "SOME-THING"?

GREAT SADNESS...

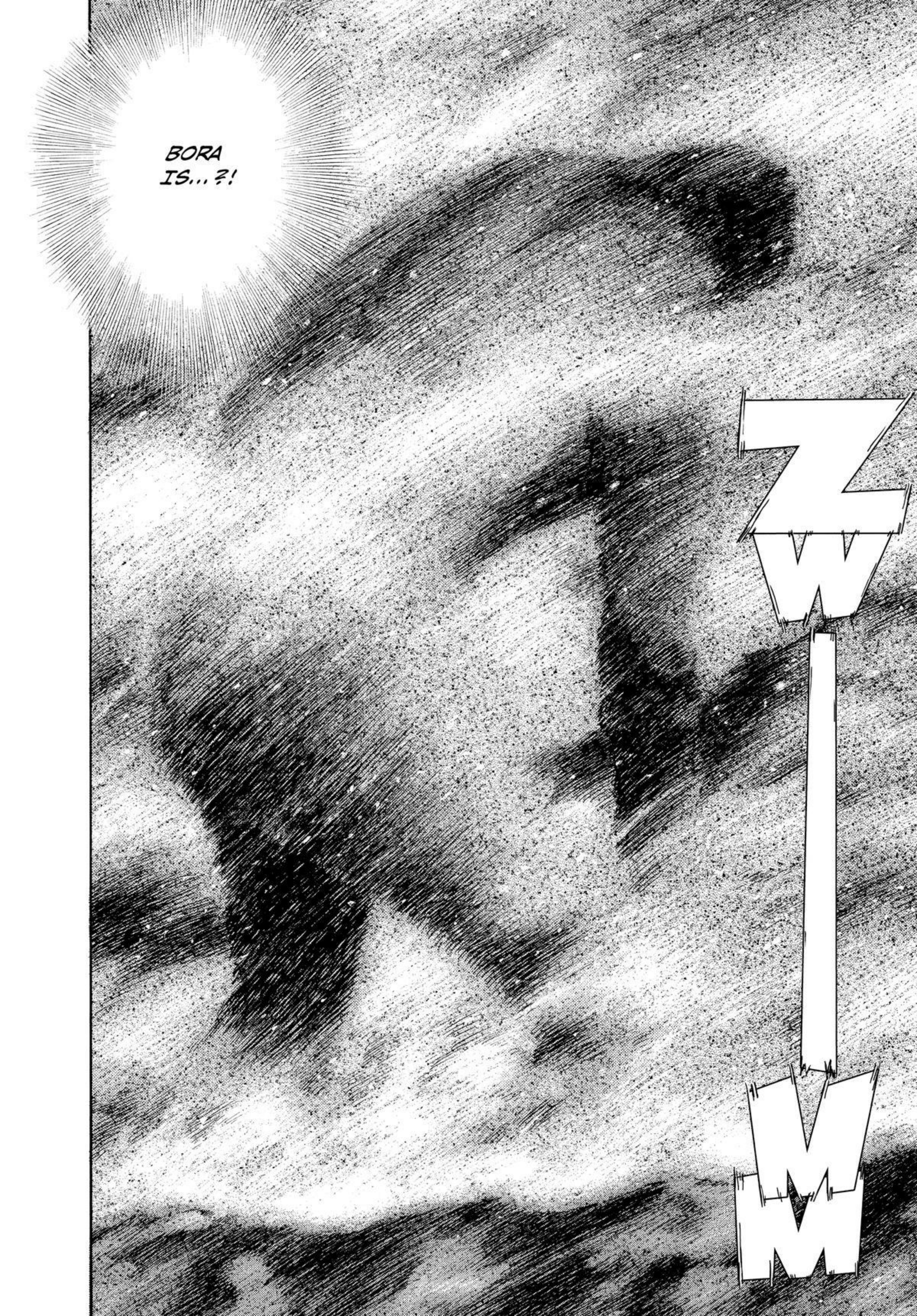
I UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING ...

I UNDERSTAND ...

I KNOW WHO PLUTO IS...

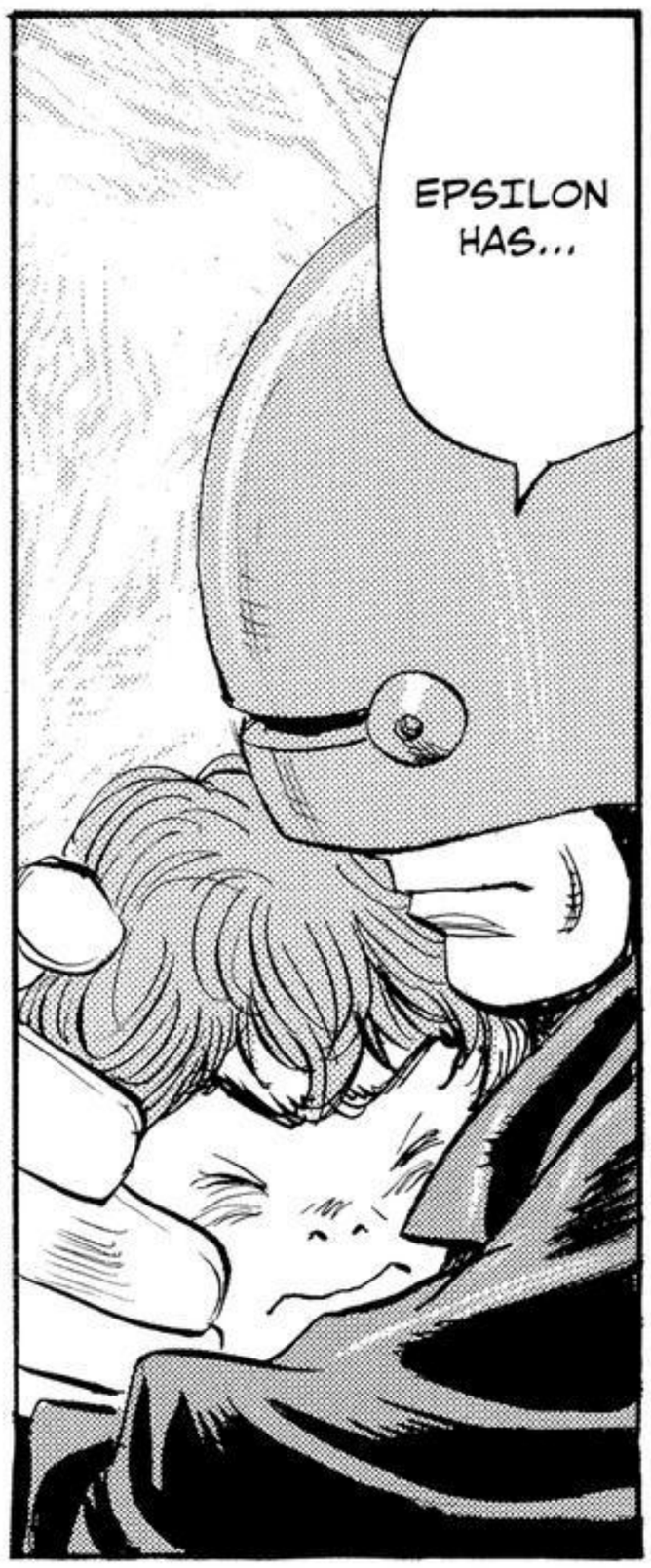
WHO ABULLAH IS...

AND EVEN THAT BORA IS...

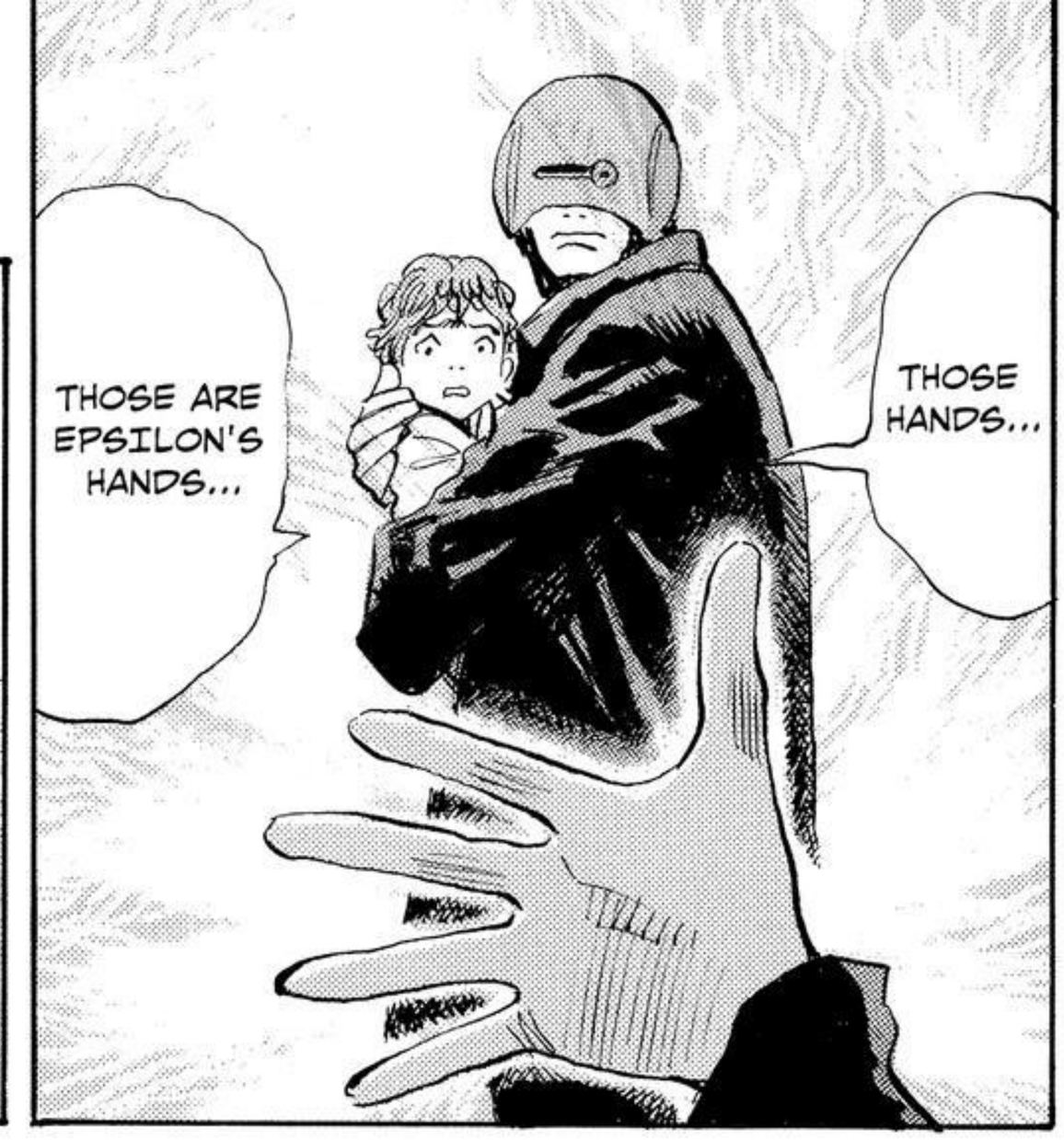

BORA IS...?!
ZZW

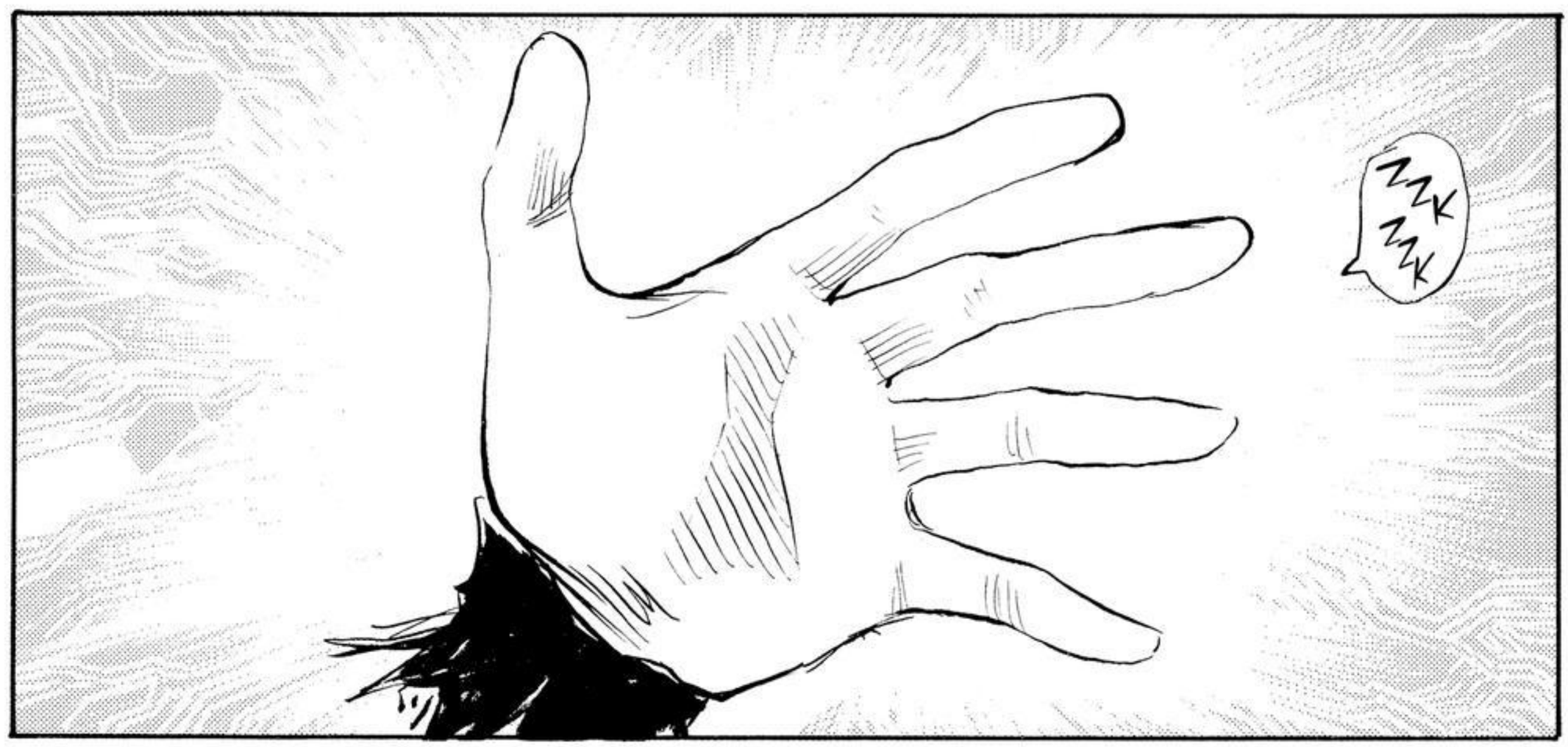
EPSILON ... EPSILON IS...
THAT HUGE SHADOW... IS THAT BORAZ?!
EPSILON!!
DON'T LOOK!!
BORA!!

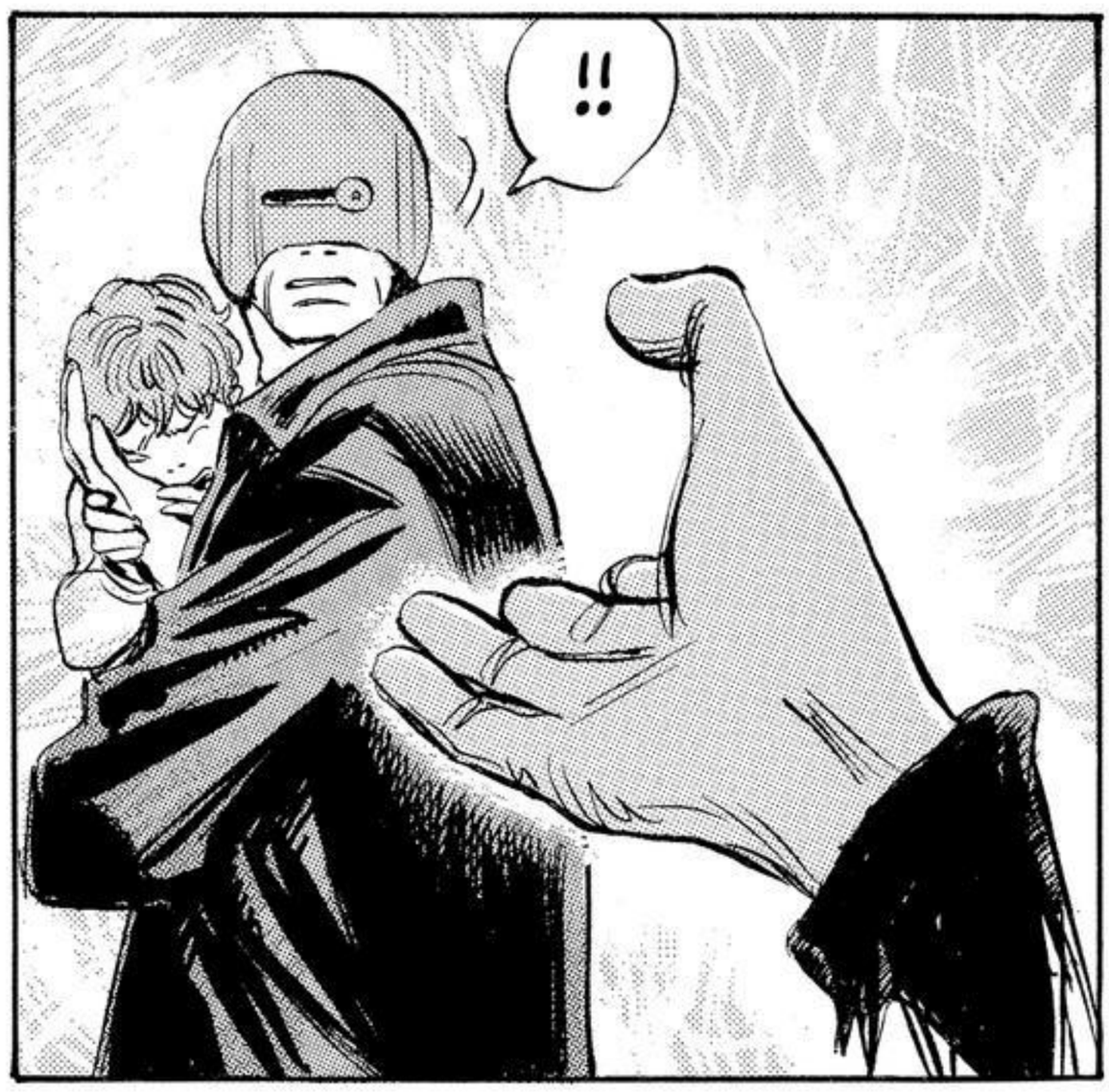
...TURNED INTO PURE LIGHT...



THEY... PROTECTED US...


THOSE ARE EPSILON'S HANDS...
THOSE HANDS...


ZZK ZZK

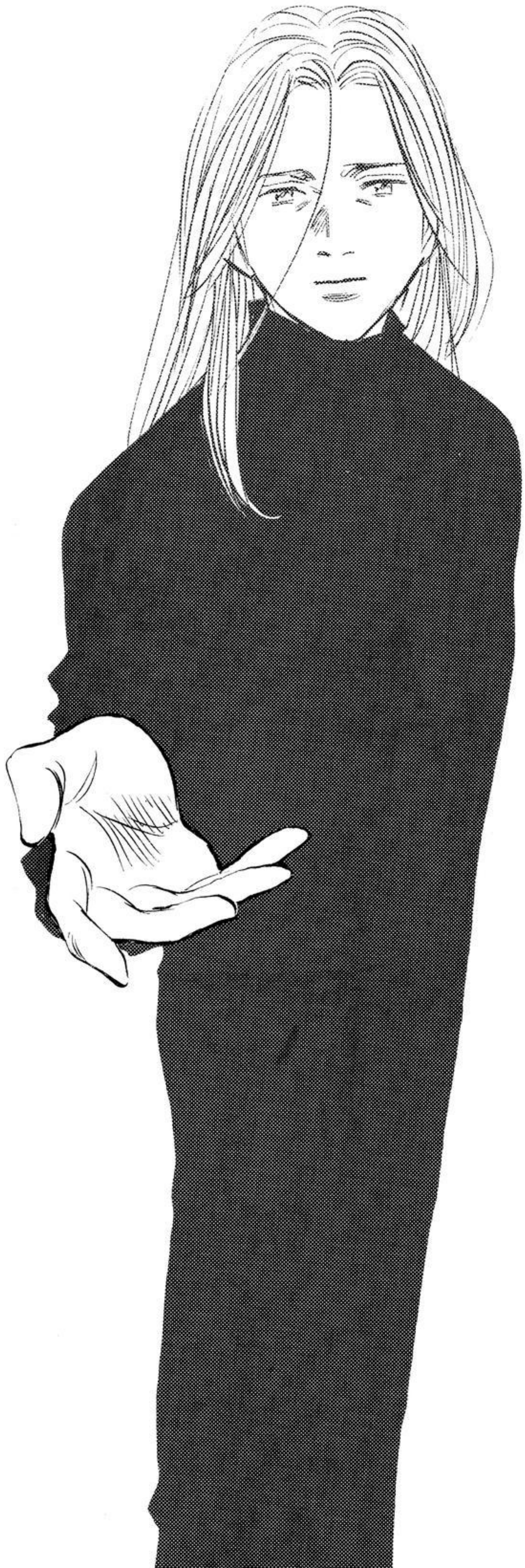

!!

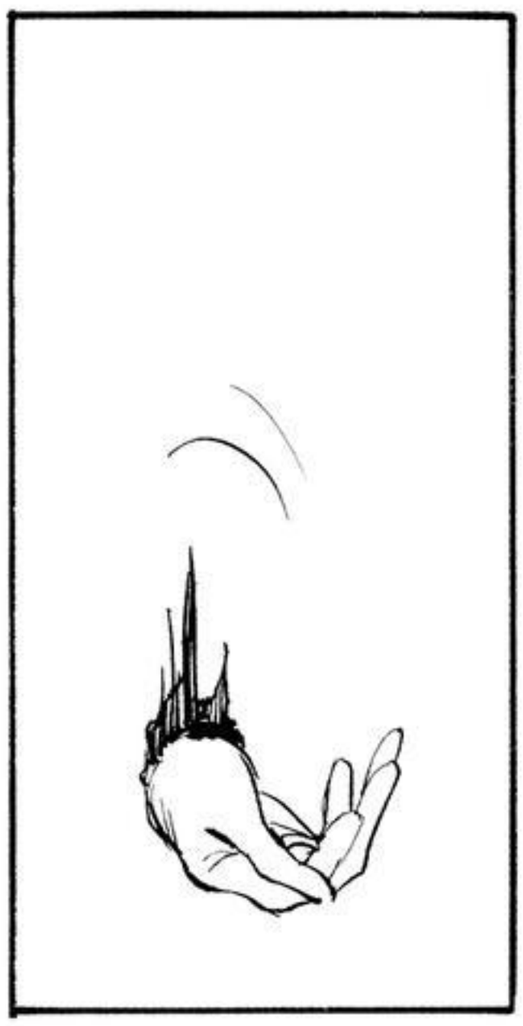
THANK YOU...
EPSILON...

SOMEONE...

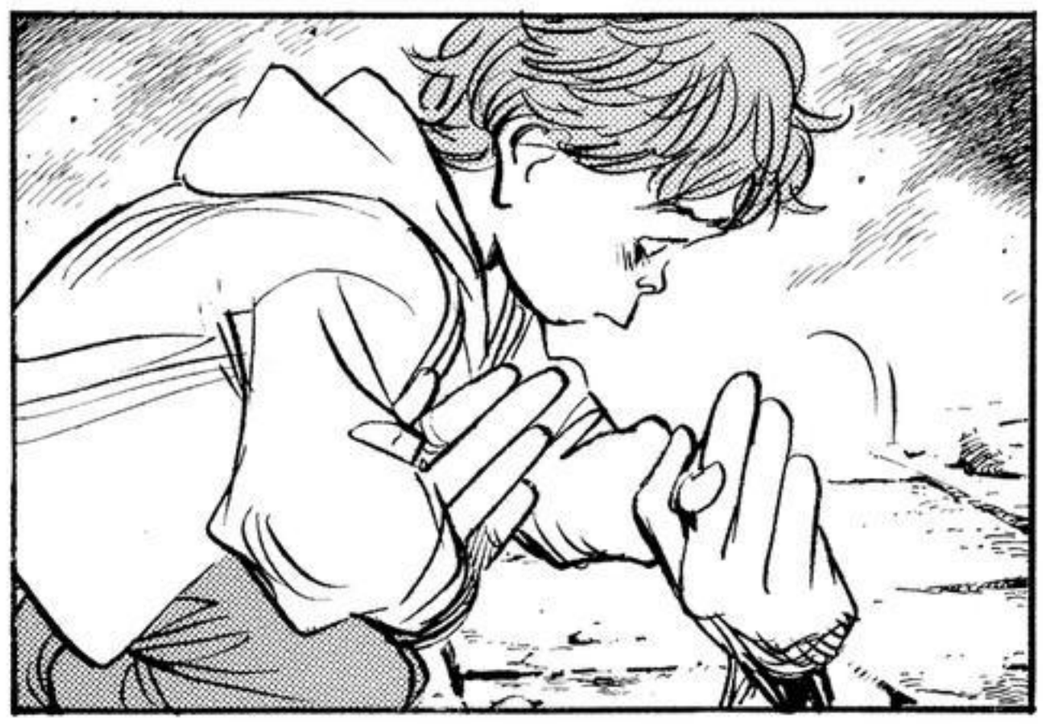
SOMEONE MUST STAND IN MY PLACE...
SOMEONE...

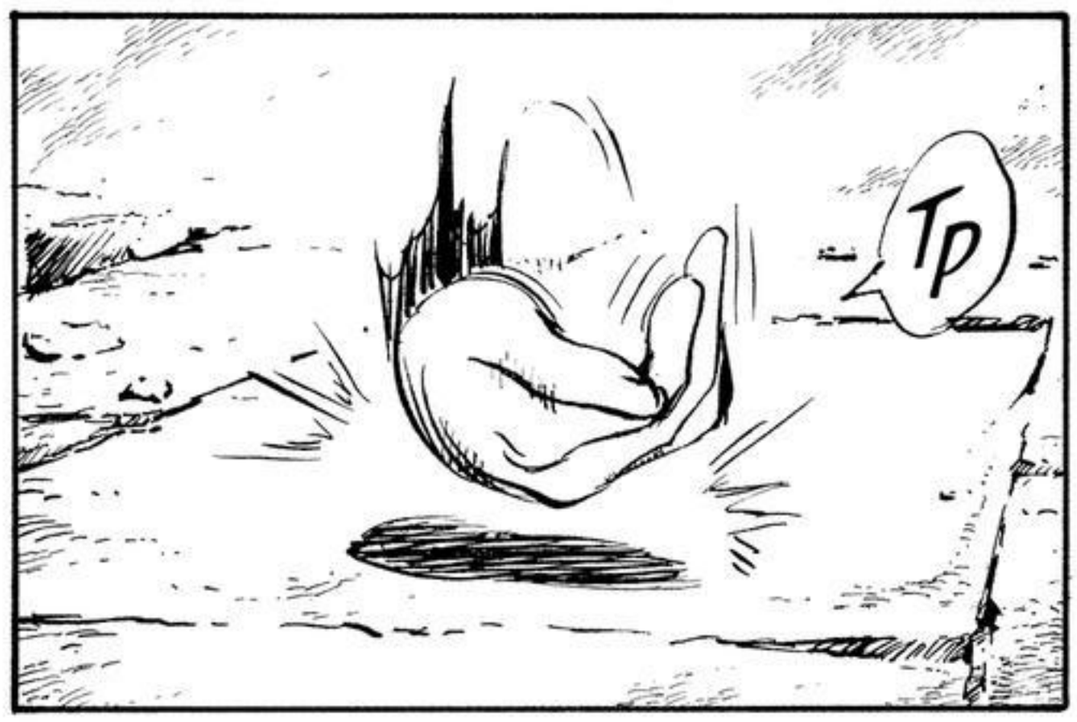
EPSILON ...?

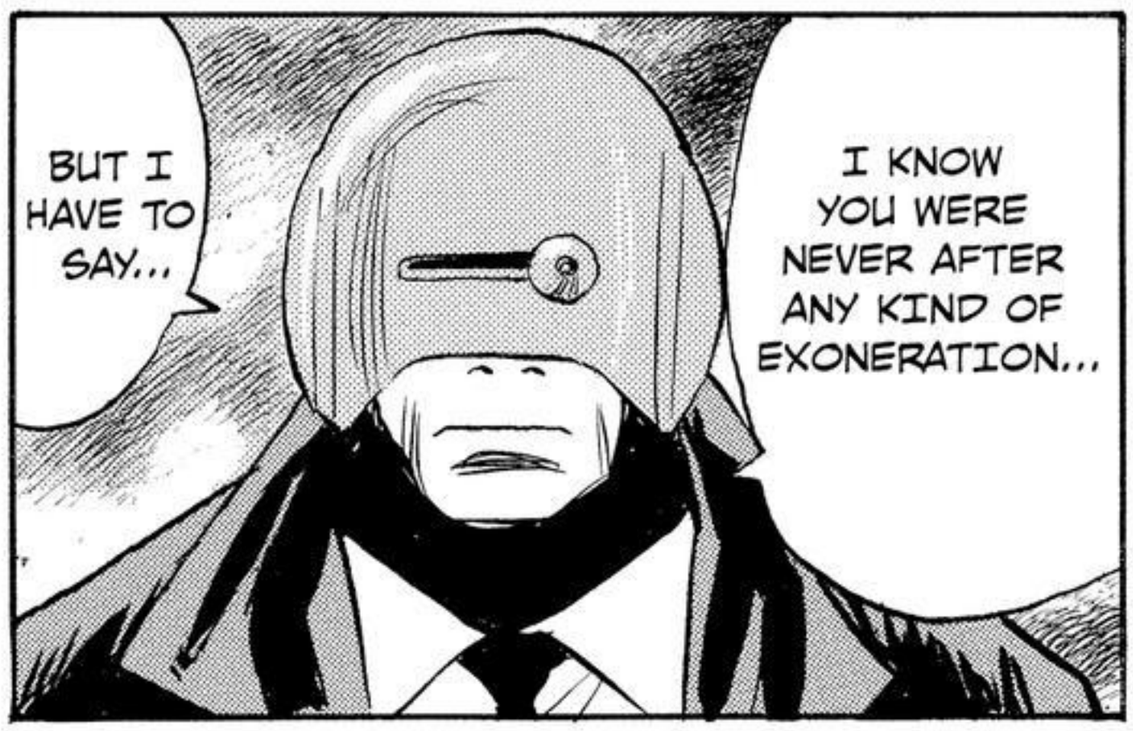

...TO SAVE EARTH...

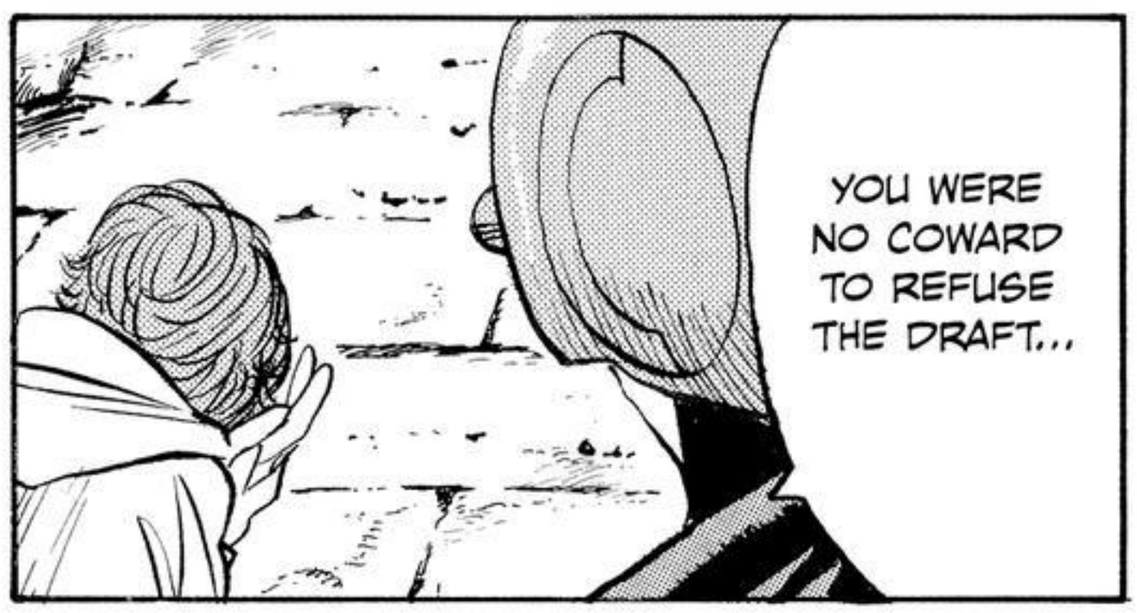


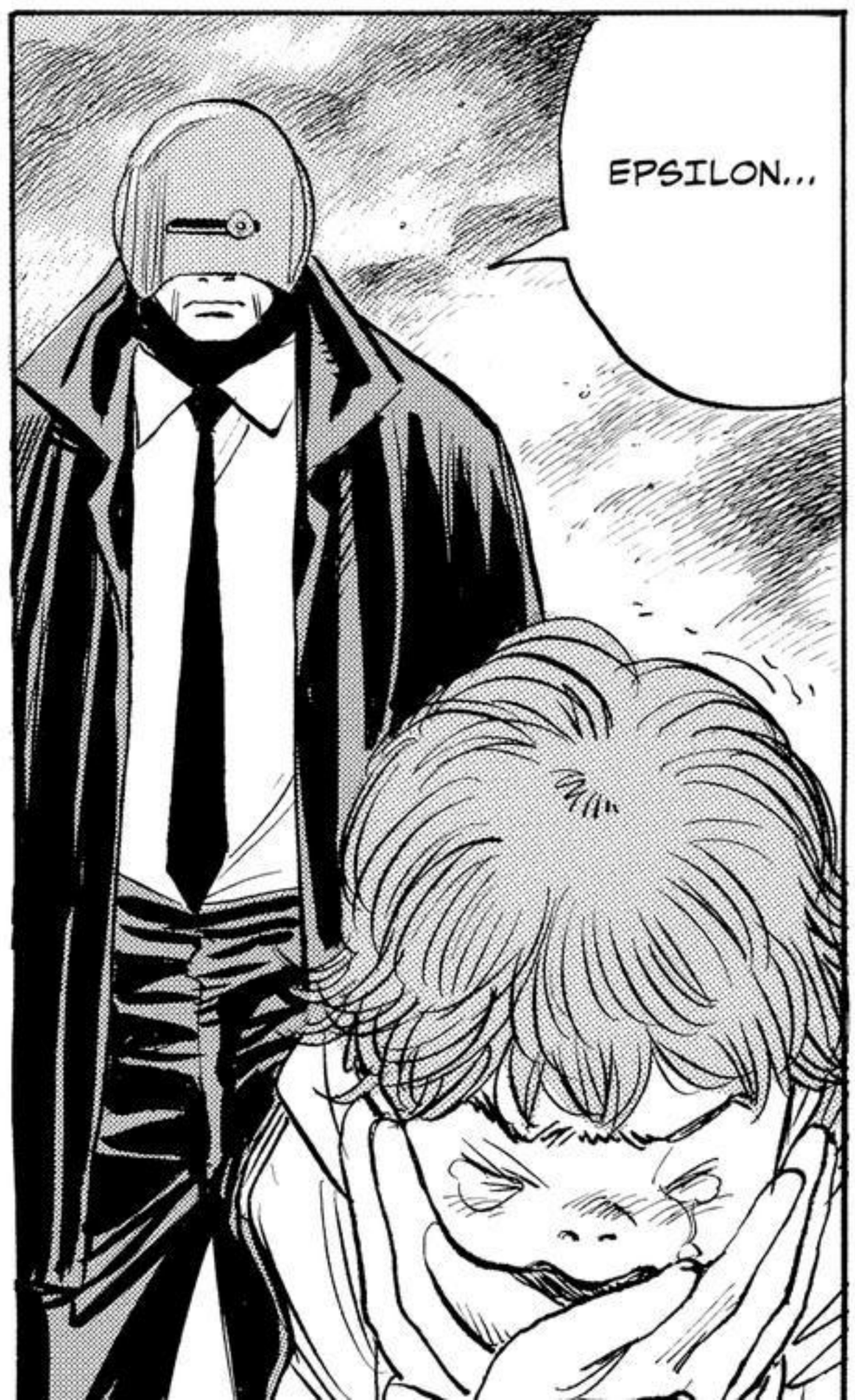
...TO SAVE EARTH...

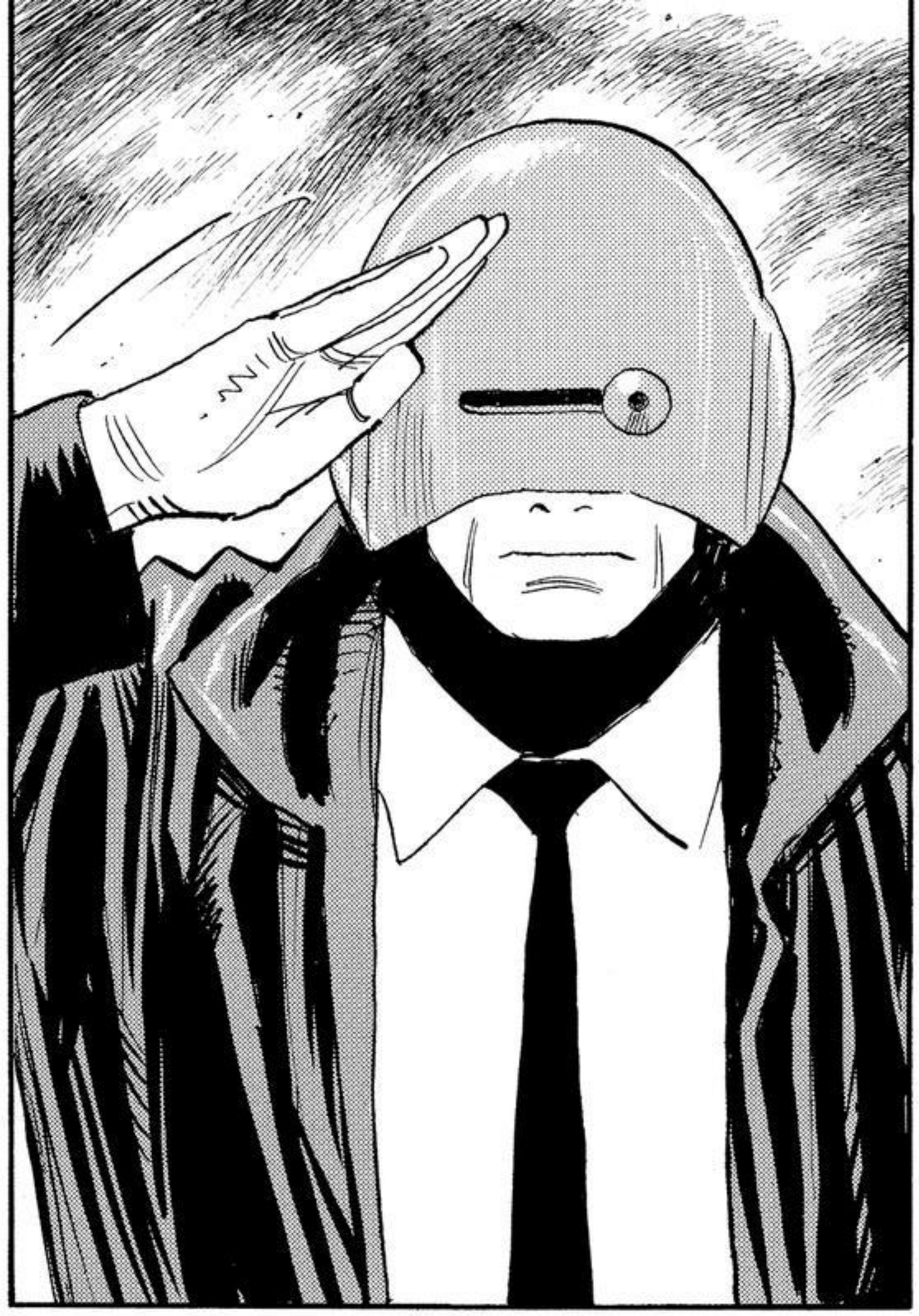


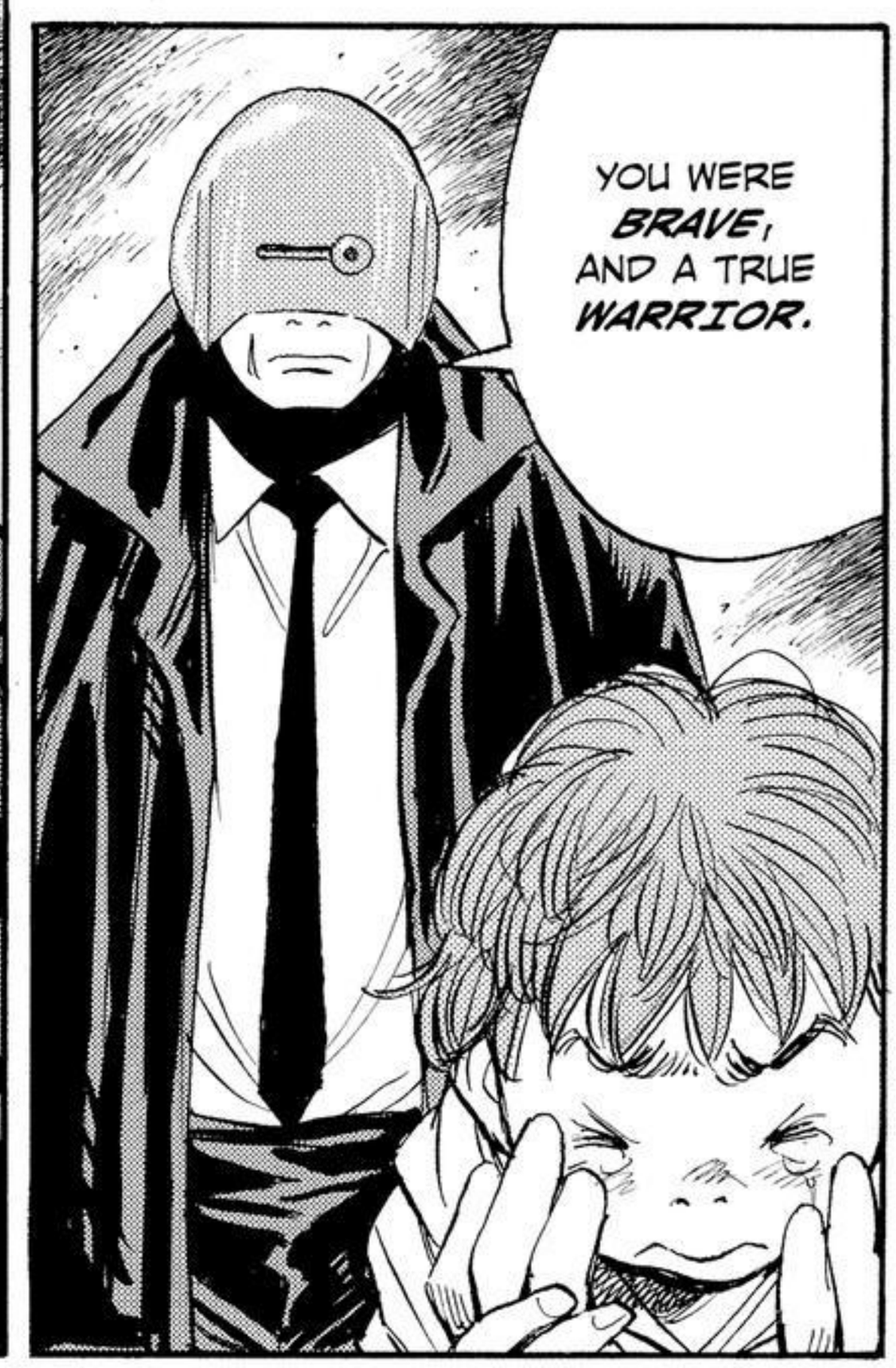

Tp


BUT I HAVE TO SAY...
I KNOW YOU WERE NEVER AFTER ANY KIND OF EXONERATION...


YOU WERE NO COWARD TO REFUSE THE DRAFT...


EPSILON...




YOU WERE *BRAVE*, AND A TRUE *WARRIOR*.

A GIANT SADNESS CAME DOWN, DID IT?

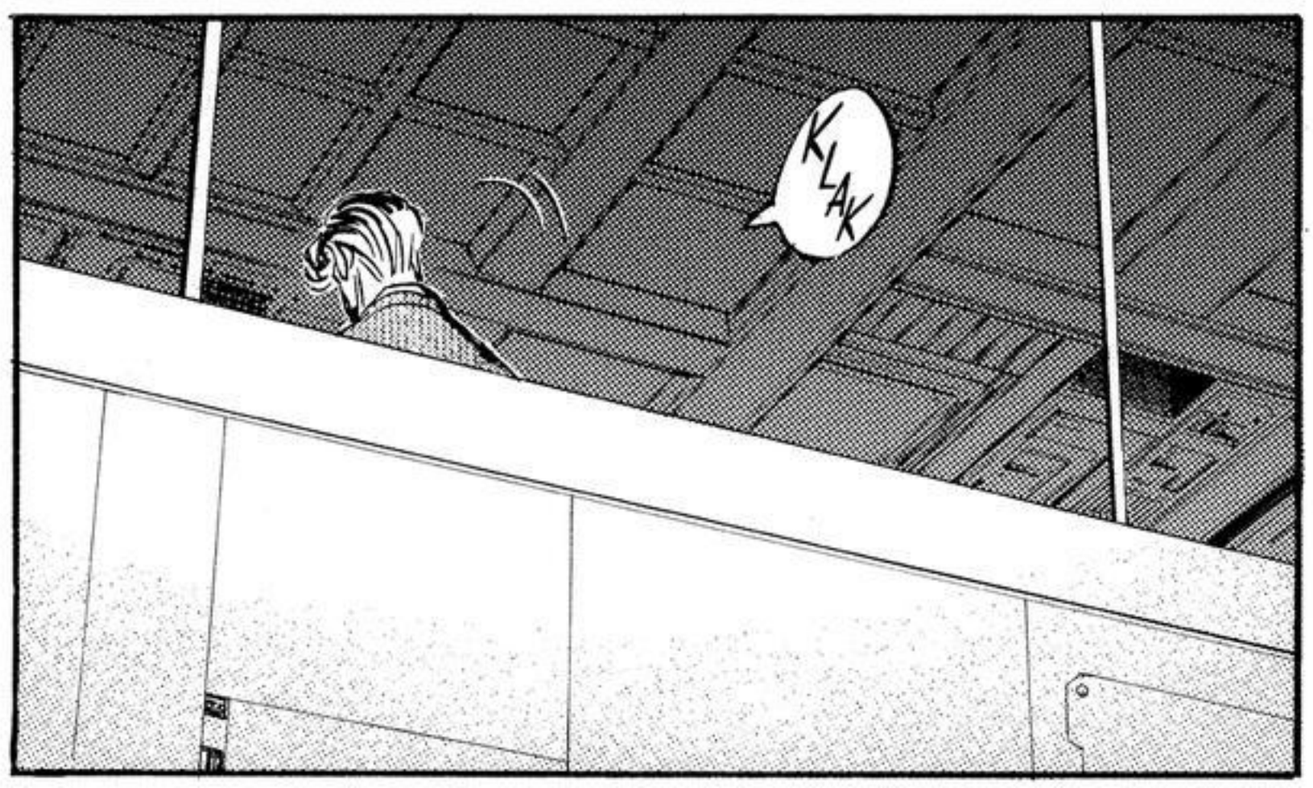
URAN, YOU LIKE TO READ BOOKS, DON'T YOU?

NO! I JUST *KNOW*!
AND I KNOW HOW SAD YOU ARE TOO!!

HMM?

MAYBE YOU JUST HAVE A GIFT FOR POETIC EXPRESSION.

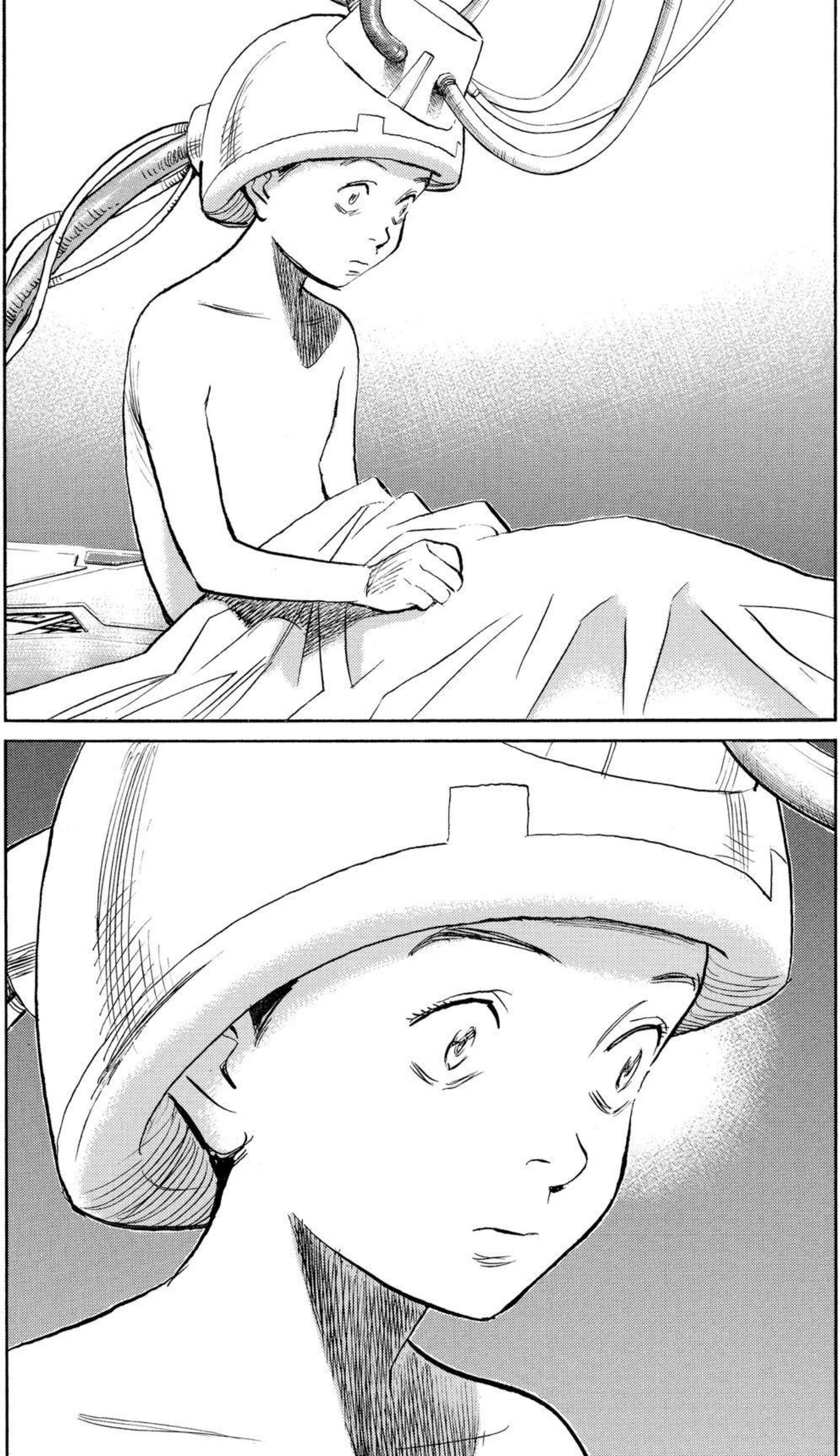
I KNOW HOW SAD YOU ARE WHEN YOU STAND IN FRONT OF TOBIO'S GRAVE.


KLAK

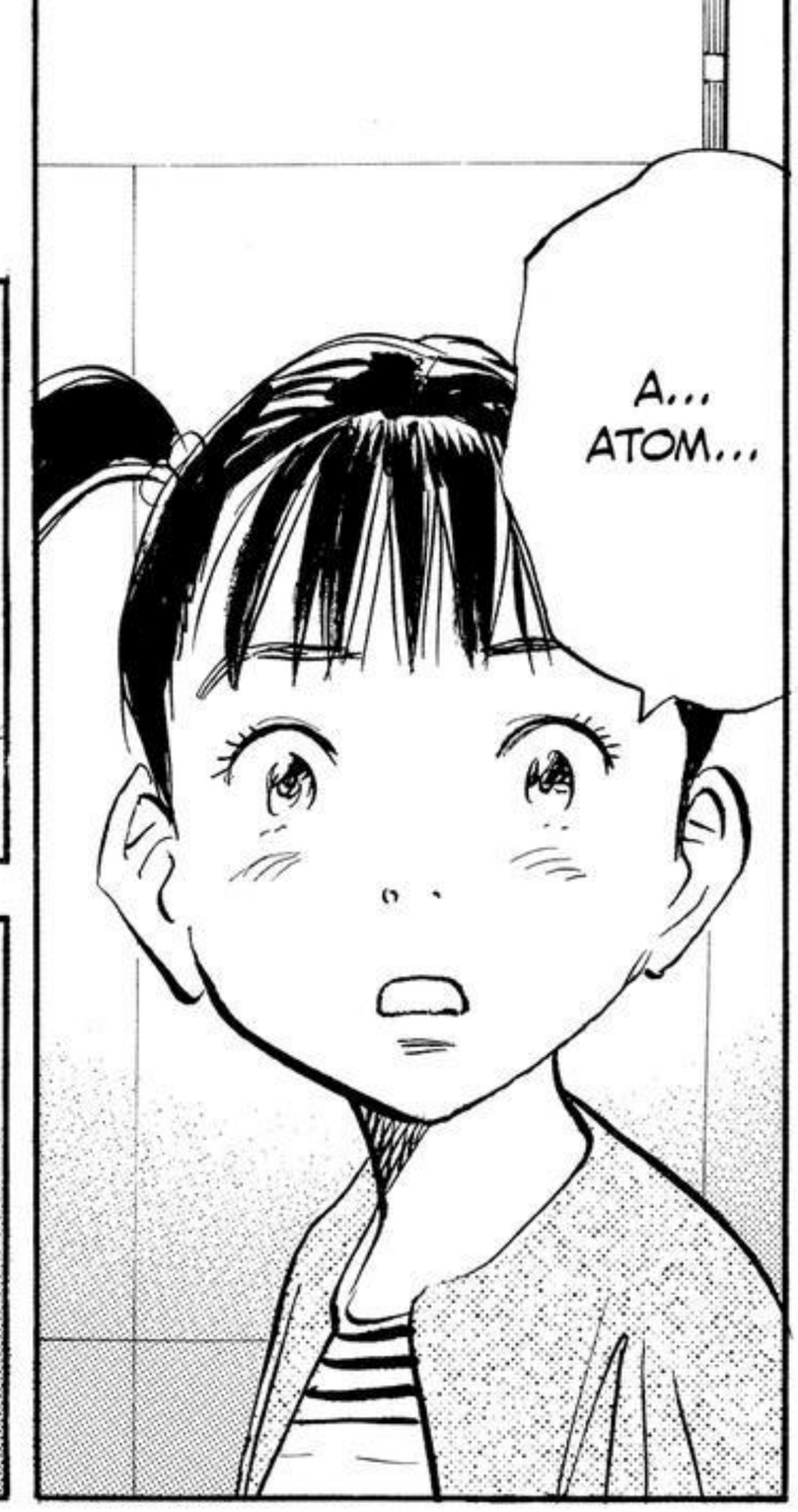
KLAK

WAIT !!
PROFES-SOR TENMA ...!!

PROFESS!



ATOM! IT'S ME! URAN!! DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?!


A... ATOM...

SURE, I KNOW...

I KNOW, EPSILON.

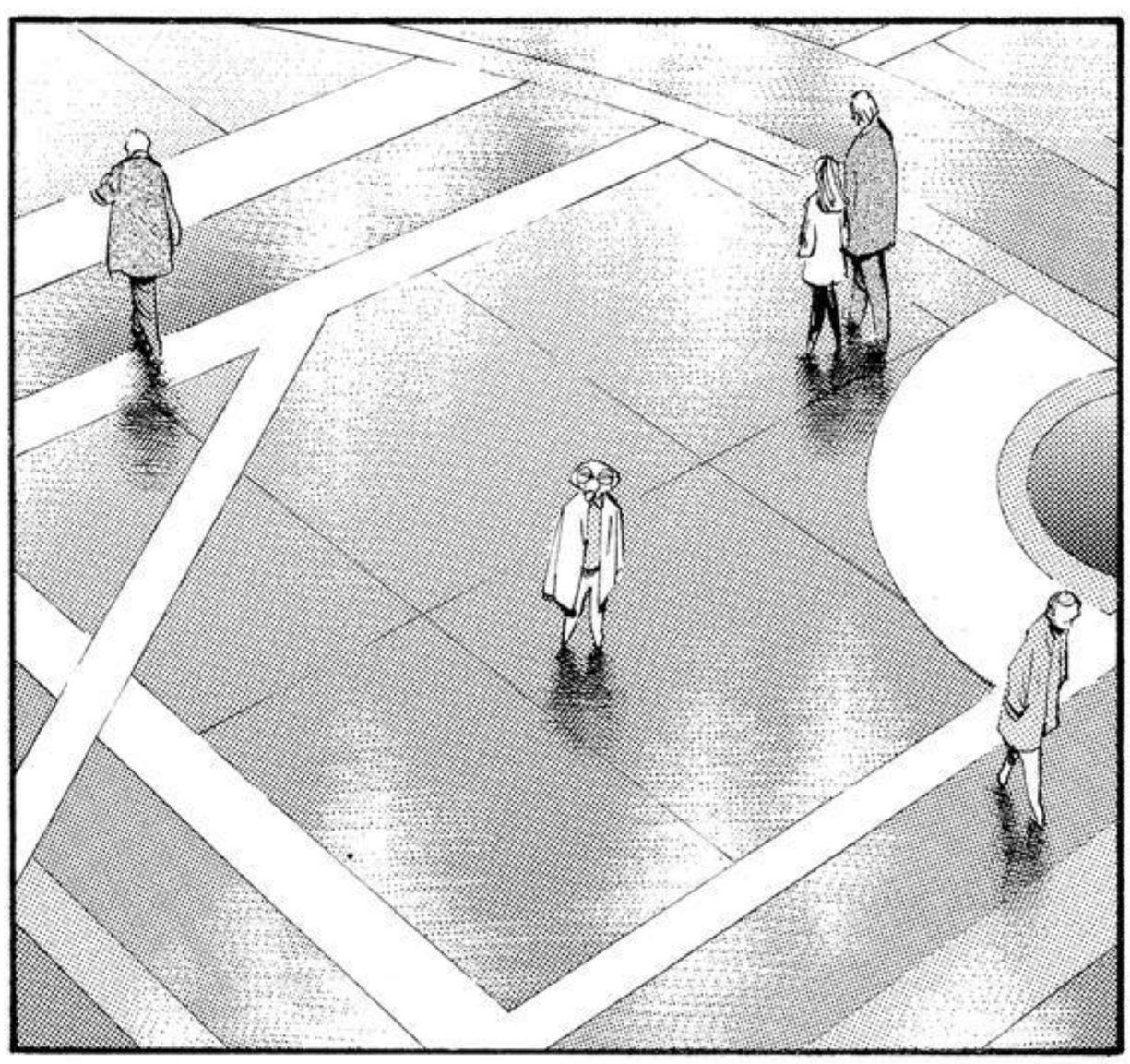
THAT'S GREAT... ATOM! YOU'RE BACK!!

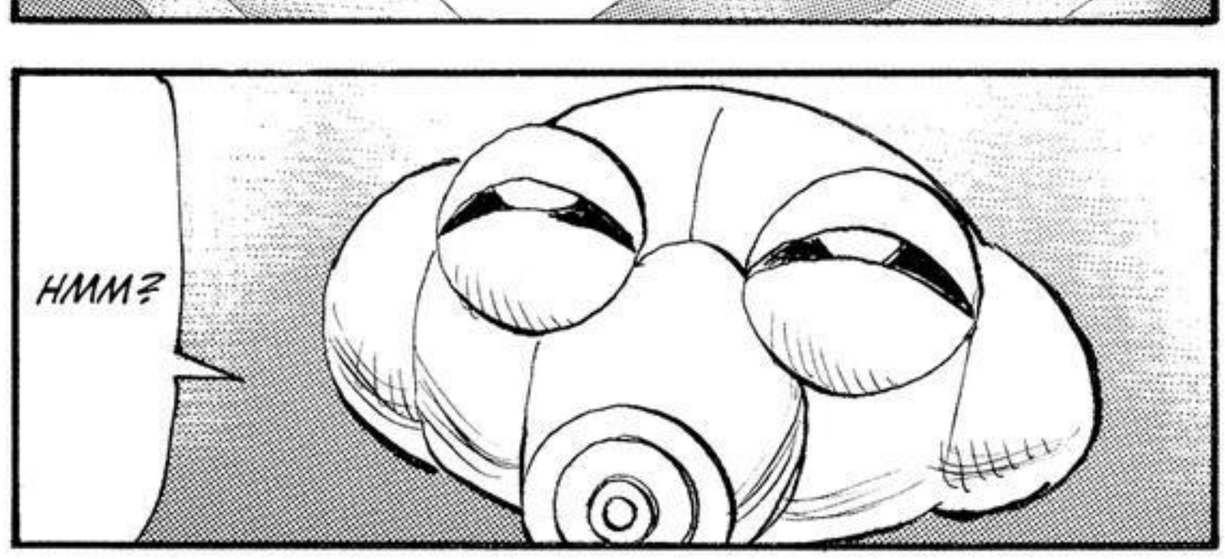
I KNOW...

ATOM...?

HUH...?

I UNDERSTAND, GESICHT.





NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. THAT CRACK HAS CLEARLY GROWN LARGER...

ATOM...

I KNOW...

THE WORLD IS FALLING APART...

PLUTO: URASAWA × TEZUKA
VOLUME 7
VIZ SIGNATURE EDITION

BY Naoki Urasawa × Osamu Tezuka
CO-AUTHORED WITH Takashi Nagasaki
SUPERVISED BY Macoto Tezka
WITH THE COOPERATION OF Tezuka Productions

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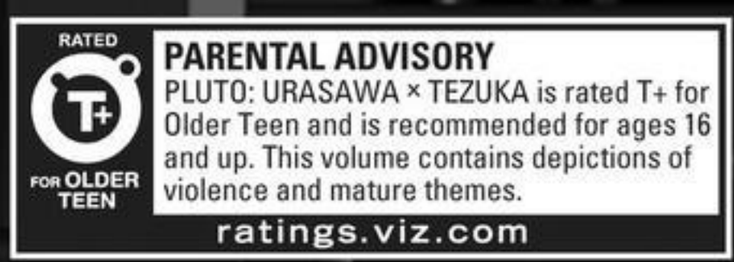
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